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猫子
Necoco

ILLUSTRATION
NAJI柳田



Reincarnated as a Dragon's Egg

~Lets Aim to Be the Strongest~

- Volume 3 -

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Chapter 97

Seaside

.....

.....

My consciousness slowly returns.

It seems like I've been sleeping for a good amount of time.

My eyelids are heavy. My body joints are painful and sore. I can't move my hands and feet.

When I put some power to move, cracking sounds can be heard.

Is this useless?

Although the pain is not really there, somehow there's an unpleasant feeling to it.

This feeling is going to stick for hours, or days even.

I opened my eyes after I can feel my joints again.

The blue sea spread in full view.

It seems like from the river I was drifted to the sea, and then somehow got here to the beach.

For the time being, should I be glad to still be alive?

While my head is still clear, let's confirm my status.

It won't be a joke if some of my skills are gone because of the slime.

[Irushia]

Race: Evil Plague Dragon

Status: Normal

Lv : 20/75

HP : 249/249

MP : 192/192

Attack: 239

Defense: 178

Mana: 164
Speed: 161
Rank: B-

Characteristic Skill:

[Dragon Scale:Lv5] [God's Voice:Lv4] [Gurisha Language:Lv3]
[Flight:Lv5] [Dragon Scale Powder:Lv4] [Dark Attribute:Lv-]
[Evil Dragon:Lv-] [Auto HP Recovery:Lv3] [Presence Sense:Lv2]

Resistant Skill:

[Physical Resistance:Lv4] [Fall Resistance:Lv5] [Hunger Resistance:Lv4]
[Poison Resistance:Lv5] [Loneliness Resistance:Lv6] [Magic Resistance:Lv3]
[Dark Attribute Resistance:Lv3] [Fire Attribute Resistance:Lv2] [Fear Resistance:Lv2]
[Oxygen Deficiency Resistance:Lv3] [Paralysis Resistance:Lv2]

Normal Skill:

[Roll:Lv6] [Status Check:Lv5] [Scorching Breath:Lv5]
[Whistle:Lv1] [Dragon Punch:Lv3] [Plague Breath:Lv3]
[Poison Fang:Lv3] [Paralysis Claw:Lv3] [Dragon Tail:Lv1]
[Roar:Lv1] [Star Fall:Lv2] [Nutcracker:Lv3]
[Human Transformation Technique:Lv3] [Kamaitachi:Lv1] [Neck Breaker:Lv2]

Title Skill:

[Son of the Dragon King:Lv-] [Walking Egg:Lv-] [Klutz:Lv4]
[Fool:Lv1] [Infighter:Lv4] [Pest Killer:Lv3]
[Liar:Lv2] [Evasion King:Lv1] [Spirit Relief:Lv5]
[Tiny Hero:Lv5] [Path of Evil:Lv6] [Disaster:Lv5]
[Chicken Runner:Lv2] [Chef:Lv3] [Mean King:Lv4]
[Guts:Lv2] [Big Eater(Giant Killing):Lv1] [Ceramic Craftsman:Lv4]
[Boss of the Crowd:Lv1] [Laplace's Interference Authority:Lv1]

However, no matter how many times I see it my power really jumps up a lot compared to the last time I seen it.

[TN: His lvl before slime battle is 19, but he doesn't check his status at all after he defeated the rock dragon, so his last stats that he see is at lvl 1]

From rank D I skipped the rank C and jump straight to rank B.

My attack power in particular rises a lot.

The value had break through the 200 points and leave it behind.

I can now clash head on against the Little Rock Dragon that I'm having trouble with previously.

I can't particularly see any skills that had decreased.
I know that I can be relieved for the time being.

If my [Roll] skill disappears, I don't think my heart can take it.
It's not an exaggeration to say that [Roll] -san is already my companion.
It's a skill that contains the memory of me and the black lizard after all.

The normal skill [Nutcracker] went up to Lv3, while the title skill [Tiny Hero] went up to Lv5.
My own Lv rises too.
I really want to see the experience value added when I defeated the slime.

I tried to remember the behavior of the slime that I seems to have forgotten after the long sleep.
Although there was no room to think carefully during the battle, I noticed a few things about that fellow.

It seems like sometimes it behaved like a human, talking about 『Skill』 , 『Numerical Value』 and 『Increased Resistance』 , almost like it knows about the existence of status.
The decisive point is that even though the fellow doesn't understand the danger of the black lizard, it immediately moved to steal the [Detoxification] skill from the black lizard as soon as it was poisoned.

Among all of those enormous amount of skills that the fellow had, I think there was a skill like [Status Check].
By chance, did it also has [God's Voice] ?
Although it was hard for me to catch what it said a the last moment, I think I heard it mutters something like 『God』 .

If I think about the character and behavior of the slime, seeing as how that good for nothing fellow treated that false god with respect... Just what did it see in that guy?

Did the slime also keeps the memory of its previous life the same as me?
However, when I check on that guy in the old times at the cave, I don't think he had [Status Check] skill.

If it's not an ability that it was born with, could that thing obtain the skill by chance... Considering what happens, I'm pretty sure about that.

Since the other side could also check my status, it should have known that I also have [God's Voice] , but it doesn't seem like it have any intention to attempt to communicate to exchange information at all.

Perhaps [God's Voice] favors it, so it doesn't have to worry about information as all of it has been provided?

However, since I've already defeated it, I don't think I'll be able to check this speculation.

Everything that I could think of will be nothing but a speculation in the end.

How did it controls Dorz, why I can't read its status properly, all of this will remain a question.

Did the slime evolve into something evil because of the influence of [God's Voice] , which is possible if you think about what happens when it (God's Voice) shows its true characters.

What is its real purpose for taking part in all of this?

Though it did send me the message with that attitude, I doubt whether the other party really had a personality.

Seriously, who is that guy (God's Voice)?

[Characteristic Skill [God's Voice:Lv4] cannot give an explanation]

...is that like your favorite word?

Though it seems like it can give a systematic explanation, It's going to be a long time before it can give me an answer.

I've been rambling non-stop, but it's not going to do anything if I just rambling on by myself.

...well, for now I should think about how to proceed from now on.

If a same fellow like the slime came out, I should first find out whether it's friendly or not before I proceed to question it.

Anyway, right now I should give priority on investigating the place around here.

Mainly securing the base and food.

With my current build, it might be necessary to procure three times the normal amount of food. I've also getting really hungry because I've slept for too long.

The easy to hunt as well as delicious kind of monsters are always welcomed.

Chapter 98

New Land

I begin to run using [Roll] along the sea of the new land, continuing for one hour.
The scenery around me is really strange.

On the left side I can only see the sea all the way till the end, while on the right side is the naked earth full of sand.

Is it a special geology, or is it because of the bad air current from the sea resulting in no rain, there's no trees growing at all.

It became a desert even when it's so near the sea.

Even if there's a plant occasionally growing up, it looks just like those cactus one.

Even the cactus, it's grown a real thick green hair-like needle, and it looks like it's crawling on the ground since it can't stand its own weight.

It looks like a grown hairy fat caterpillar, giving it a really unpleasant feeling.

You might even mistook it as some kind of dark worm if you don't see it carefully.

Even though I can see living creature here and there, the camel has three heads with seaweed covering its body, there's also a group of giant red ants forming a line, so it's not really something that stirs my appetite frankly speaking.

When I look at the sand-colored centipede which is four times longer than me, it really makes me want to just jump back into the sea.

Without the time to do anything, the other side seems to start running somewhere chasing after a monster looking like a leopard.

With short, innumerable feet, it fiercely moves dispersing the sand nearby.

Although it's possible to get away if I used [Roll], if we compare the basic speed it's definitely above me.

I wonder what rank is this large centipede?

I think it should be around rank B.

However I should not group this monster the same as the one from the forest.

Crap, I really want to go back to the forest real bad.

Currently, I should find a place that has edible looking creature and set up base there. In this dry vacant land, there doesn't seem to be any place for me to hide my body from monsters at all.

I should dig up a hole somewhere and create the sleeping place there.

Furthermore, when I use [Roll] to search around, I managed to find a spectacle of rocks arranged together shaping a big Japanese Yen.

It's like a huge, 5 meter radius Japanese yen. Not just one or two, but more than ten are arranged in the surroundings.

I'm feeling goosebumps just from seeing this.

What the heck is this thing?

Pretty sure this is a nest of some nasty monsters.

Should I turn back?

I cancelled [Roll] to observe it, and seeing the rock inside the circle, I understood that some kind of magic circle was drawn.

This thing, it's not the work of monsters but man.

When I twist my head around, I noticed that there's barely any monster found in the vicinity.

Is it some kind of talisman warding evil?

Among all of these rocks, some of them can be easily moved.

As its hard to avoid monsters here, is there a village protected beyond this rocks?

I noticed that I've been hoping to meet a human dwelling here, thus I shakes my head to remonstrate myself.

Currently, I am a monster.

Although I might look a bit cute as a baby dragon, my current appearance is completely that of the enemy of mankind.

If I see the explanation before the evolution, [Evil Plague Dragon] is the type that human really scared of.

Even if I didn't enter the village, it would be a huge panic just from being seen and the uproar might even destroy the lifestyle over there.

There's also the [Dragon Scale Powder] too.

Turning back, I used [Roll] to go back from where I came from.
I run towards the arranged rocks, cancelling [Roll] after I slightly neared it.

Regretfully, I really wanted to confirm even if it's only the appearance of the village.
If I can step on top of the magic formation, even if I can see the other side, there might not be an uproar.

Kicking the ground, I fly high above, turning my vision towards where a village is supposed to be.

Continuing land can be seen after the arrangement of rocks, and further ahead, high stone wall can be seen. Lots of buildings can be seen on the other side of the wall.

It should be more than 10 meters in height.
Is it so that no monster can go in?

There's also the magic rock formation too.
Since I'm only feeling a bit uncomfortable from it, there might be other monster that can get over it too.

Not just the height, but the area it covers are huge too.

This is no longer at the scale of a village.
It's a city.

On the other side of the high stone wall, I managed to caught a glimpse of a showy flag on the upper part of a building.
The inside seems to be very lively.

I get down on the ground, walking towards the opposite direction.
Looking at the vast extending empty land that will continue to expand in the future, I felt much lonelier than before.

...if it's like this, it would have been better if I hadn't seen it.
No no, what are you doing getting depressed for?
I had already decided to continue living a lonely life as a dragon.

[Dragon Scale powder] should disappear depending on my next evolution.
As long as I continue raising [Tiny Hero] without getting depressed, I might be able to

turn into a better race from now on.

Once I turn like that, it might even be possible for me to return to that forest again.

The [Human Transformation Art] skill has also level up as well.

Its Lv3 now. If I continue using it repeatedly, it might be possible for the appearance to be more humane.

My maximum MP also increased with my Lv up, so I can maintain it for a longer duration.

The MP consumption for [Human Transformation Art] is roughly around 1MP per second.

Because my current maximum value is 192, it would be empty in just a little over three minutes.

However if I continue to evolve, if I can increase my maximum MP to around 600, I can turn into human for 10 minutes.

Though I don't understand how accurate the real number really is, in case I managed to get [Auto MP Regeneration] like the slime, even if I don't raise my maximum MP, I should be able to increase the effective time considerably.

If it's 10 minutes, not only can I talk to traveler, it might even be possible for me to enter the village to see the situation.

While continuing doing that, it would be possible for me to know the circumstances of the other side after doing it for some times.

Alright, there's still hope.

For the future purpose, I need to increase my maximum MP as well removing the evil dragon status.

Although I felt like I'm already on the straight path for evil dragon, I'll manage somehow... I really want to believe that.

If there's 360,000 MP, I'll be able to turn human for 100 hours! Don't give up, me!

Chapter 99

For The Sake Of Delicious Food

I return back to where I came from to leave the arranged rock's magic formation. To make the base, as well as avoiding unnecessary trouble, I should make it far away from the city.

If I was carelessly discovered, they might even create a subjugation corps for me.

...However, foolishly setting up base here, is it okay?

Well, there should be plenty of people leaving the city.

If I build a house in a place that will be discovered by the humans, there's the possibility that they will get scared and attack in great numbers.

Should I dig a hole somewhere after I'm far enough?

However, if I do it badly, there's a chance that I'm going to be buried alive while I'm asleep.

To begin with, are my eyes even good in the dark?

If there's no Light Mushroom grown around here, I'm screwed.

If the cave and underground are useless, should I make my base somewhere high?

Though in the forest I could do it on the tree, but there's nothing here.

Well, while thinking about the roof on my head is good, should I focus on securing food for now?

Currently, one of the possible edible food is the three-head camel.

The appearance is a bit severe, but it's way better than the large centipede and the red ant which is no better than eating pile of sand.

Not to mention, there's that leopard being chased by the large centipede too.

Does it taste better than the three head camel?

...However, when I look at it before, that leopard-like monster seems to be at the bottom of the food chain here.

What the heck is wrong with this place?

That's kind of like a message for me whether I should really settle down in a place like this.

This place is far more dangerous than the forest. Though it might be a good place to raise my Lv.

Well, I should get the rough idea once I check the status of the monster around here.

First of all would be the most noticeable cactus that looks like a hairy caterpillar.

Life here would be considerably easier if this thing is edible.

The thorns were also thin, having no effect on my scale.

Knowing there's plant like the fly trap, I carefully approach while thinking there might be a chance that it's a monster, and then I touch it.

The thorns bend, without sticking to my hand. Yep, it seems to be safe.

In flower language cactus means unpleasantness, something like a love that never blooms.

Although it has function of storing water preventing it from being dry, it's still wisely can be related.

I think that there is a similar flower language in his world, I don't think the flower language match with this fatty thing.

...However, when I can't even remember my name and face, why can I remember this trivial thing?

Do I really have a previous life?

I pull my hand that touched the cactus, swinging it diagonally, cutting down the lower part.

With the sharp cut, the cactus part falls on the ground.

From the section, it seems like some kind of white liquid is spilling out.

Inside the liquid, some kind of seeds seems to be mixed too.

Surprisingly I might be able to eat this thing.

First of all should I use the [Status Check] ?

[[Cactous-Tallpupae:Value C]]

[A type of plant that blooms on a special ground. On the ground that this plant blooms. Other plant will not grow up]

[Can absorb water, also has the ability to save the water indefinitely. Therefore, it will wither when it rains everyday.]

[For the fat appearance, there is a myth that the plant is the body of the baby of god.]

Cactous Tourpuper seems to be the unborn child full of thorn]
[Due to its characteristic, it usually grows on dry ground, in which the the moisture of
[Cactous Tourpuper] are often found useful]
[Full of nutrients, as well as strong sweet taste. however , because it will wither in a
few days once it separates from the ground, it's not suitable for peddling]

What the heck, this thing is totally edible.
Against the me who already thinking of delicious ways to cook the centipede, there's
this cold feeling. No, it seems like I was saved with this.

Or rather, is it fine for a dragon to eat cactus?
Although I care about the nutrients, I don't want my next evolution to go crazy because
of this.
Well, it seems to be a valuable water source for the time being, should I fill my belly
full?
Although there is the sea, the water is impossible to drink.

I put my hand on the rugged cactus, putting my teeth at the section and drinks the
contents.
It felt like pineapple juice thinned with water, as well as some aloe vera added to it,
not to mention there's no sticky feeling to it.
This is bad, it's a taste that makes me unable to live without it.

Once I've eaten it, my hunger increases.
The starvation seems to have stopped momentarily before, but now that my appetite
had awakens, it seems to be shouting from the bottom of my stomach.
I haven't been able to eat anything for a while now.

Since its troublesome to draw out the insides, I just bite the cactus's thick skin to get
it.
The thorn keeps hurting my gums, but I continue chewing on it without care to tear it
off.
Yep, the skin is unexpectedly edible too. Though the humans will die if they copy me.

For the time being I eat up all of the ones that are scattering in the area.

No, I keep on eating.
But after all, it's still just a desert.
Meat is necessary.

Should I chase after the leopard that the large centipede also chase?

While I was thinking about such thing, a pile of sand seems to start moving.

What, is it a monster?

Since the pile of sand seems to be on the size of my hand, it should be a considerably small monster.

However when I think about it, here's also the possibility of it having some kind of strange poison.

I thought whether I should do the preemptive strike with [Scorching Breath] ,but for the time being it's necessary for me to collect the information about the living thing here, thus I decided to fly backwards to take some distance.

I won't be able to look at the status if it turns into charcoal after all.

I only prepared the breath attack for when it springs up.

I should be able to see where it came from even if it came at me with unbelievable speed.

The pile of sand collapses, something sand-colored pop out its head from the inside.

“Pefu”

It's a strangely long-eared, desert rabbit.

There's no neck with round body.

It shook its head, confirming the surroundings.

However, because of its narrow view, it can only see at the range of 120 degrees.

Since it pops its head on the opposite direction from me, it doesn't seems to have noticed me yet.

I breath a sigh of relief and crawl on the sand.

“Pefu'pefu'!”

It shakes its body while barking in a peculiar voice, dropping the sands.

Chapter 100

Ball Rabbit

What appeared in front of me, was something the size of a softball.
...what the kind of rabbit is this?

The body is round, with the hands and feet can't be seen inside the hairy ball.
It approaches the piece of cactus while strangely rubbing its long ear that's dragging on the ground.
Its round tail also swings left and right as if to match the movements.

It seems to be asleep while hiding under the sand, and the sweet fragrant of the cactus seems to wake it up.

Well, considering it's such a harmless monster, getting to eat such a plant is pretty rare.

Because the plant is fully covered with the thorn, there's no way such a small body will be able to tear it.

Does it usually hide beside a cactus while other monster ate and tear the plant?
For such a creature, its caution level is way too light.

For the time being, let's confirm its status.

Race: Palmtop Ball Rabbit

Status: Normal

Lv : 2/5

HP : 4/4

MP : 3/3

Attack: 1

Defense: 2

Magic: 2

Speed: 2

Rank: F-

Characteristic Skill:

[Hiding:Lv1]

Resistance Skill:

[Hunger Resistance:Lv4]

Normal Skill:

[Dig:Lv1] [Light:Lv1]

[Playing Dead:Lv1]

Title Skill:

[Idol of the Desert:Lv1] [Kin Eater:Lv1]

Uwa... its been a long time since I last seen this kind of status.

How was it possible for it to be living in the desert that looks like the demon's lair?

You can dig a hole even without the [Dig] skill.

[Light] is pretty useless as a mean to attack.

There's no use in [Playing Dead] , as they'll just pick you up to eat.

Well, it's that huh.

Such a small thing will never be able to fill the stomach.

It brings its face close the contents of the cactus that has dropped on the ground, and begins to eat by licking it.

This guy too, it seems to have [Hunger Resistance].

Not to mention even raising it to Lv4, it seems to have suffered a considerable amount of starvation to live.

The Lv won't go up if you don't fight, so it's pretty hard when you're at the bottom of the food chain.

It's the same when I was just born into this world too, If I chose to run instead of fighting the dark worm, it's possible that I might still be an egg by now.

When it's like that, I would probably keep on increasing my [Hunger Resistance] just like this rabbit.

...However, its Lv still goes up.

Just what did this fellow beat?

It seems like it had some kind of unpleasant skill, did this fellow eat its own kind after losing to starvation?

...It got a cute appearance, but it seems like it has gone through its own share of trouble.

Well, it can't be helped once you're desperate right?

Although I do feel like eating right now, I really felt guilty when I see its face...

Not to mention seeing its round belly, would you be able to do it?

Does it have a low caution level, or does it went crazy because of the empty stomach, but it seems like it haven't noticed me at all who's standing behind it.

It's possible that it's been living quite well till now.

After stuffing its cheek full, it starts swallowing the cactus, finally exhaling a satisfied breath.

Finally after filling its stomach it finally felt my presence, and with a slight shiver, it looks back towards me.

My eyes matched with the Ball Rabbit.

"Hepuu!?"

The Ball Rabbit raises a small cry, as it digs up a hole and hides itself under the sand. Digging a hole... or rather, it just covered its body with sand. The butt is completely out.

I have no idea how many times I ask this, but how the heck is this kid able to survive?

After observing the swelling pile of sand for a while, I began to walk in the opposite direction.

I have no intention of doing anything to that Ball Rabbit.

How to say it, it's the feeling of wanting it to work hard and survive. If such a monster pile up the experience one at a time, it will evolve someday.

I really want to see the evolution system sometime.

However, the feeling of wanting to devour it that should be growing inside me somehow doesn't happen.

It somehow triggered my desire to protect it instead.

No, but, is it because it's small?

I feel like I would be able to jump at it without reserve if it's bigger.

Or rather, when you think about something absolutely delicious, it should be the fat one.

I could also raise it like a farmer.

I should serve the gross looking monster to the Ball Rabbit, until it became totally fat... but somehow, I don't know if I would be able to eat it once I become more attached to the fatty one.

After I walked a few more steps, I heard a rustling sounds from the back.

Oi oi, be patience will you?

It's only been five seconds from when I turned my back.

Rustle, rustle rustle, rustle rustle rustle.

...this, it's not the sound of a rabbit huh?

I turned around.

A scorpion the size of a medium-sized dog can be seen approaching the Ball Rabbit. Although I thought how it suddenly appeared, when I trace where it moved, I was able to confirm that there's a hollow in the sand.

Does this guy also digs a hole to hide itself? How careless can you be, me?

For now, shall I confirm the monster's status?

[[Baby Scorpion] :Rank E+ Monster]

[Hiding by covering its body in the sand, it's an assassin of the desert who aims for the careless prey by stabbing them with poison stinger.]

[Though it evolved into a smaller body after evolution, it excels at aiming at the weak spot after being able to hide it's body from powerful enemy]

E rank huh, so it should be around the same as the Gray Wolf.

Or rather, yeah. The strong one hiding aiming for the weak, could you not do it now?

What a timing.

You should have just leave.

Or rather, if I don't get involved, it could have been a funny story.

Me in particular, have no intention of eating the scorpion.

The surface seems hard, I'm not really into eating bug-like thing, and there's the

poison too.

Because I already had the Ball Rabbit, I don't want to eat the scorpion.

Yet, is it presumptuous of me to interfere with the desperate hunting of other creatures?

However, before I noticed it, my body involuntarily moved.

I bend my body and approaches, abruptly swing down my arm. A small sound escalated,

My claw easily goes through the back of the shell and sticks to the sand, fixing the scorpion in place.

The hand and feet of the scorpion trembled without power, and stopped before long.

[Because the rank difference is too much, the experience value can't be obtained.]

...ooh, first time I'm seeing this kind of message.

Despite beating such a low rank, I'm B rank after all. Is there such a thing too?

Although I had thought that the obtainable experience value would be low, were they reduced with the rank difference?

However, I can neither turn it into experience value nor turn it into food, this is literally a useless killing.

Just like when I throw the vase turtle down the cliff, there's a slight sense of guilt.

Although I might get affected by the poison status, should I endure and eat it? If lucky I might resist it.

Lets at least do a proper burial.

As I finished the Baby Scorpion, the Ball Rabbit which crawls out of the sand pile to run away stops moving, quietly staring at me.

"Pefu"



The Ball Rabbit approaches me while dragging its ear which hung down restlessly. It seems to have recognized that I had helped it.

Since traveling alone is lonely, should I take it with me since it's special?
No, however, I don't have any confidence that I can protect this fellow...

If I took it, I will protect it.

However, not just my action will be largely limited, its going to be hard if it died after I became attached to it.

These two point is really critical.

Not to mention there's [Dragon Scale powder] too.

...However if I leave it, it will probably be eaten for real this time.

While I'm worried about what I should do, I remember the skill of the Ball Rabbit, [Dig].

If the Ball Rabbit evolves, won't it be possible for it to dig underground to set up the base?

If that is the case, one of the difficult point of making underground base has been removed.

If I raise the Lv of the Ball Rabbit and evolve it, it should be satisfied of the help that allows it to live in this desert.

In return, I will have the evolved moon rabbit dig my base.

If this goes well, before the effect of [Dragon Scale Powder] take place, we should be able to cleanly go the separate ways after benefiting each other.

...If the sign of sickness starts to appear, we will separate in the middle, but I don't know what will happen if I don't try it.

Thinking about the people who had been affected by the [Dragon Scale powder] so far, I think that the effect should be considerably slow... It might be my desire to investigate this.

I have only used the [Plague breath] once, all the time during my journey.

This time I won't use it even once.

Although I don't want to keep on having this unpleasant feeling, I want to avoid it at all cost.

Chapter 101

Jade Rabbit's Evolution Plan

I crushed the shell of the scorpion which I defeated before with my mouth.
It somehow taste like a dry lobster.
It's hard and bitter.

It doesn't taste so good huh, this thing.
Although it had poison, the skill Lv is not that high, as it's only to the extent that felt numb a bit.
My resistance didn't go up either. It seems like I now know that I can eat poison-related thing.

I safely eat the scorpion, spitting the shell shard on the ground.
Thanks for the treat.

Although the taste is not that good, it fills my stomach for the time being.
Its far from delicious, but I think it could be a valuable experience.
Who knows, perhaps even the ants might be soft once I extract it from the shell.
Although you're going to need poison resistance, the black lizard might eat this with delight.

I advanced through the desert while putting the Ball Rabbit on top of my head.

Although it would really saves me from all the troubles if there's a cave ahead, looking at the surrounding area I don't think I should expect much.
If I put the Ball Rabbit to dig it should be able to build a base of considerable size.

"Pefu"

The Ball Rabbit moves restlessly on top of my head.
It's a bit ticklish.

Although I really want to see the [Light] skill, words can't get through.
Let's try taking it to the dark place later.

It might instinctively use it once it goes into the dark place.

However, even though I helped it once, this fellow really trust me too easily.
There's no way I would be able to calmly ride on top of someone 100 times bigger than me.

Even a Chihuahua is not that tame.

I travel carefully through the desert.
If I dropped it, it will definitely die.
It only has 5HP after all.

Even if I want to evolve the Ball Rabbit, what should it defeat?
As it Lv will improve even if it defeat anything aside from F rank, it's limited to what the Ball Rabbit can deal the finishing blow.

Is the scorpion from a while ago just right?
No, however..... that guy, it would never appear if it noticed I am there.
Although I don't know the chance if I use the Ball Rabbit as a bait, it might feel intimidated if we both came together...

My [Presence Detection] caught something.
It's just that, their presence is very thin.
Perhaps they're buried underground. Lets roast them a little.

I lay down my body by bringing my stomach and chin down to the ground.

"Pefuu?"

Hearing the Ball Rabbit's voice on my head, I decided not to drag this on any longer.

I inhaled deeply, then roars aiming towards the ground.

"GuruoGAAAAAAAAAAAAA!"

The sound vibrates with the sands splashing around.

[The Lv of Normal Skill [Roar] went up from 1 to 2]

Perhaps they were scared of my voice, here and there, piles of sands burst and lots of

monsters dash out.

From human sized bugs, to the mole the size of a dog.

There's around 30 of them, all are only monsters between F to E+.

Aside from that stupidly huge centipede, there's really not that much of a great difference between this desert and the forest huh.

I go to the nearest one, the same scorpion like the previous one.

I chase after it with room to spare for more speed, and put my claws on its tail to seal its movement.

Using the [Paralysis Claw] I lightly graze it.

I crushed its scissors, tears the foots, and split the shell at its back.

Although the scorpion violently struggles at first, its movements gradually becomes weak.

Sorry, scorpion. Please let us eat you properly.

Race: Baby Scorpion

Status: Paralyzed(Big)

Lv : 6/22

HP : 4/30

MP : 8/15

Alright, it should be fine now that it's paralyzed.

This guy also had the skill [Poison Fang] , [Poison Claw] and [Poison Scissors].

As I've already crushed its scissors, fang and tail, there's no means for it to counter attack.

If I let the Ball Rabbit attack it, and let it stop if I see that the paralyzed status of the scorpion is almost removed, it should be able to safely earn experience value.

I put the Ball Rabbit on my palm and slowly lowers it to the ground.

The Ball Rabbit seems speechless, continuously looking at the scorpion and me.

It seems like it's unable to understand the situation.

Please attack quick.

When I rush it with my eyes, the Ball Rabbit timidly approaches the scorpion.

As usual, it rubs the ears that hung down on the ground.

I wonder if it's safe. Will it be okay with seeing blood?

The Ball Rabbit tackles the scorpion.

Race: Baby Scorpion

Status: Paralyzed(Big)

Lv : 6/22

HP : 4/30

MP : 8/15

Uwa, not even 1HP decreased...

Between Lv2 F rank and Lv6 E rank, is there a way to overcome that difference?

The Ball Rabbit continuously tackles

It's okay, do your best, keep going!

Furthermore, it seems like it hurt itself again.

A good hit! Now, that's a good hit!

Finally, it treats its long ears like a whip, lashing it towards the scorpion.

It can do things like this too!? Awesome!

Oh, it hit the part that I had crushed, that should be effective against the scorpion, maybe.

After continuously hitting the scorpion, it looks up to me.

Did you get tired after moving too much? Its breath was haggard while it looks at me.

It seems to think that all that it did was useless.

The scorpion's HP, not even 1 had decreased.

With this, even if I kill it, it doesn't seem like the Ball Rabbit will gain any exp.

I use my eye to urge it to try a little harder.

The Ball Rabbit seems reluctant, but it faced the scorpion again.

"Puhee'!"

A small fireball the size of a rice grain appears.

The fireball turns round and round surrounding the Ball Rabbit.

Is that the [Light] skill?

If it can be used for a long time, it will be able to act like a lamp like the Light Mushroom in the forest.

After the fireball spins around the Ball Rabbit 3 times, it flies towards the scorpion. It pops and spread with a light tone, searing a part of the scorpions shell.

It went through!

The scorpion's HP decreased by 1.

It will be able to knock it down if f it can shoot four more... though I thought that, the Ball Rabbit had become tired and crouched in its place.

It seemed like it had spent all of its MP with that one blow. Since its F rank, there's no other way huh?

The paralysis seems like it's going to be removed, as the scorpion slightly moved its body.

I crushed its head with my claws.

[Because of the high difference in rank, the experience value cannot be obtained]

For me that's a good thing, as I'm fine if it all goes to the Ball Rabbit.

It's good if I can keep doing this until it can evolve.

Chapter 102

Big Eater

Now then, first let's confirm whether the Lv of Ball Rabbit increase or not.
If the Lv becomes maximum with this, let's quickly proceed with the evolution

Race: Palmtop Ball Rabbit
Status: Normal
Lv : 5/5(MAX)
HP : 5/7
MP : 0/6
Attack: 2
Defense: 3
Magic: 5
Speed: 3
Rank: F-
Characteristic Skill:
[Hide:Lv1]
Resistance Skill:
[Hunger Resistance:Lv4]
Normal Skill:
[Dig:Lv1] [Light:Lv2]
[Feigning Death:Lv1] [Wild Whip Dance:Lv1]
Title Skill:
[Idol of the Desert:Lv1] [Kin Eater:Lv1]
[Lv Up Parasite:Lv1]

Oooh, it really goes up.
The level of the [Light] skill goes up too huh?

The [Wild Whip Dance] skill was added too.
...though this is good and all, why are you moving your ears like that?
Can you fight with this skill?

...well, even if I assume it's all good, some strange title skill had been added.
This [Lv Up Parasite]... perhaps, it refers to that kind of useless person?
Does it give any penalty?
However if it helps, I'll keep on raising its Lv.

The Ball Rabbit stretches its back, it drags its body and ears facing the scorpion.
As I'm wondering what it's going to do, the Ball Rabbit widely open its mouth, biting the scorpion.

Since it moves a lot and used a skill, it seems like it became hungry. I had no time to stop it.

Although the tooth of the Ball Rabbit is unable to eat through the scorpion's shell, it seems like it's sucking the meat of the scorpion from the cut that I made with my claw.

Although I was dumbfounded for an instant, I quickly lifted the corpse of the scorpion with my claws, and throws it far away.

"Pefu'!?"

The Ball Rabbit chased the scorpion with its eyes, its gaze dropped to the ground looking disappointed.

No, it's because that guy is a poison carrier!

If you got poisoned you'll die for sure with that kind of HP.

Since its been having a long experience of starvation, it seems like it doesn't have any resistance when seeing food.

Its different from the Black Lizard's bad eating habit that will eat anything.

Did it get poisoned?

Lets confirm it for the time being.

Race: Palmtop Ball Rabbit

Status: Poisoned(Small)

Lv : 5/5(MAX)

HP : 5/7

MP : 0/6

I told you you'll get poisoned!

"Befuu'!"

When the Ball Rabbit cried, it vomits the piece of meat along with its body fluids.
I pat the back of the Ball Rabbit while being careful not to stab it with my claws.

Well, it's not a very strong poison... and it only ate a small amount, there shouldn't be any problem if it managed to vomit out all of it.
You should resist it. That's how I lived up till now, with spirit.

Once the poison settle down, in exchange of 2HP, the Ball Rabbit obtained [Poison Resistance].
In case of this fellow, even 2HP is deadly.
There's only 3HP remaining.

I was made to think, that it slightly becomes easier for me once I learn healing magic...
It should be good if my next evolution specialized in healing magic.
The amount of MP needed is large if I want to stay human for a long time, so I need the recovery type. My target is decided.
A strange dragon that specialized in healing. I want to think like that.

Although I really want to evolve immediately, I suppress my desire for now.
It seems to be very tired, as it's lying on the ground.

Since both HP and MP are almost empty, you should have evolved earlier.
Even though it's already LvMAX, why didn't you evolve?

With a "guu" sound, I heard its small belly rumbling.
It should have filled its belly with the cactus from a while ago, it's empty again already...
Can't be helped, should I feed this fellow something first?

Putting the Ball Rabbit on my head, I return to the place with the cactus from a while ago.
It seems to be easy to eat after I cut the cactus and scatter it around the area.

Since before this there's only my leftover, it shouldn't have been able to fully eat.
I wouldn't have known that its appetite really doesn't match the tiny figure.

Confirming my expectation, the Ball Rabbit eat the whole content of the cactus that I cut.

Didn't you eat too much?

W-well, it can't be helped.

Its an F- rank monster with [Hunger Resistance:Lv4] after all.

With the 'Kin Eater' as well, it seems like it's been living a hard life.

While it's eating, it should know of what can and can't be eaten.

I heard that pigs has such a habit.

In the end, the Ball Rabbit eat all of the one that I cut.

You serious? Or rather, didn't your figure becomes bigger? Just how much did you eat?

Well, it should be satisfied with this.

The Ball Rabbit drags its body and ears and stops beside me.

"Pefu'! Pefu'!"

...though it seems to be asking something from me, could it be that you still want to eat?

Will more cactus really fit such a small body?

Should I really let it eat more?

Should I let it stops here? Will you be able to walk by yourself?

Although it had the title skill [Idol of the Desert, I don't know if there's any idol who eats cactus and scatters it everywhere.

Its at the level where the blog is going to get flamed.

While I'm feeling uneasy in various ways,I cut the cactus in pieces.

The Ball Rabbit devours it one after another.

It's amazing, with how much this fellow can obviously eat. It's like the whole body is made out of a belly. Does it know space magic?

So once again, will the Ball rabbit keep on eating, or will it try again?

Chapter 103

Ball Rabbit's Evolution

After the Ball Rabbit finished eating, its size increased to that almost twice bigger. It ate at least 5 times the current size. Seriously, just what is this fellow made of?

While the Ball Rabbit ate, I crouch on the ground, laying there. My big mouth makes a large “fuaa” sound, yawning with all my might.

At that moment, the body of the Ball Rabbit suddenly expands rapidly. The Ball Rabbit which was the size of a softball, has rapidly grown to the size of a watermelon.

Oi oi this fellow, it finally evolved.
I'll confirm its status at once.

Race: Small Ball Rabbit

Status: Normal

Lv : 1/12

HP : 3/10

MP : 0/6

Attack: 3

Defense: 4

Magic: 6

Speed: 4

Rank: E-

Characteristic Skill:

[Hide:Lv1] [Food Reproduction:Lv1]

Resistance Skill:

[Hunger Resistance:Lv4] [Poison Resistance:Lv1]

[Overeating Resistance:Lv1]

Normal Skill:

[Dig:Lv2] [Light:Lv2] [Feigning Death:Lv1]

[Wild Whip Dance:Lv1] [Swallow:Lv1] [Internal Storage Space:Lv1]

[Charm:Lv1]

Title Skill:

[Idol of the Desert:Lv2] [Kin Eater:Lv1] [Lv Up Parasite:Lv1]

[Big Eater:Lv2]

...somehow, wasn't food-related skills increased?

As I thought I fed this fellow a bit too much...

Even the title skill [Big Eater] had increased to Lv2.

And what the heck is [Food Reproduction] ?

Or rather, what the heck is this [Overeating Resistance] ? Do you mean to say, your stomach won't feel any pain once you've eaten too much?

Since you don't need to endure it anymore you'll eat as much as you can?

This Small Ball Rabbit, just how useful is it I wonder.

Since it's in the E rank, I don't think it's possible to make it evolve in one go again.

As for the effect of the [Dragon Scale Powder], I don't know how long it can last.

Is it alright since I folded the wings?

Still... Dragon Scale Powder, it's at Lv4 now... Would it really be okay for me to have an optimistic view?

The next enemy, should I use the [Plague Breath] ?

After the Ball Rabbit stretches its body, it looks at me.

Just when I thought our eyes met, at the next moment, it moves its eyes towards the cactus.

Then it turns its line of vision to me again.

...Could it be, this fellow still wants to eat?

Oh well, I'll serve you till you're satisfied. Although it's not much work to prepare it, it's still annoying.

When I cut the cactus with my claws, the Ball Rabbit consumes the insides and spits the skin,

As expected, since it ate so much since a while ago, with a leaked “Puho” breath, it stops eating.

It seems like the Ball Rabbit had grown, as it seems to know where it should stop. If it grows any bigger, the procurement of food will definitely becomes difficult.

Now that I remembers, it has the [Food Reproduction] skill.
Maybe it had recovered by now.

Race: Small Ball Rabbit

Status: Normal

Lv : 1/12

HP : 8/10

MP : 0/6

Uwa, although I expected it it's still scary.
Can the thing it consumed be turned into HP?

If I think about it, it's like a degraded version of [Automatic HP Recovery] , so it should be considered as excellent for an E rank monster to have a mean for recovery.

For me too, I feel considerably relieved.

It seems worthy having the [Overeating Resistance] which allows it to eat without stopping.

I put the Ball Rabbit on top of my head and walk through the desert.

Since I'm with the Ball Rabbit, my speed has decreased since I can't use [Roll]. If I use that to search, I feel like I would have been able to find some cave or something like that.

Aah, my body starts to ache.

As I slowly walks on the clear surface, my body starts itching to use [Roll].

I can roll around any obstacle on the ground, and as I got pretty good at doing a little mountain jump, it felt really nice.

Suppress it, me. Suppress it.

It's like I'm having some kind of withdrawal syndrome.

In the end, it seems like I still can't find a place to make a base even after the day grew

darker.

The Ball Rabbit is getting sleepy. Should we take a rest for now?

I put the Ball Rabbit down from my head.

Once the Ball Rabbit got off the ground, it immediately digs a hole and buried itself. Because it seems like a fat pile of sand, it will definitely be found out by starving monster huh... this fellow.

I cover the sand pile with my body, and closed my eyes.

It's like the Ball Rabbit is being swallowed when I lay like this, it really shouldn't look like that.

...However, sleeping in the open like this, somehow I can't settle down.

I try to calm my minds by all means.

But I think about the possibility of being attacked while I sleep, there's no way I could do that.

I'll definitely die if the large centipede comes while I was in deep sleep.

I will absolutely fight back though. But first I'll grab the Ball Rabbit and fly to run away.

When I think of it this way, I seems to have realized just how comfortable my life at the forest was.

There's a cave where I can slowly rest on the fur spread on the floor, there's also dried meat as well as other outside food.

There's also my hobby of making pottery, and I even planned to enlarge the cave more. And above all else, there's the Black Lizard as well as those Red Monkeys...

No, it can't be helped.

Let's stop thinking about this.

According to the evolution path, I should be able to suppress the [Dragon Scale Powder].

Once I managed to do that, I'll slowly returns to the forest.

Chapter 104

Gal leopard

When I woke up, my stomach felt strangely weird.

What Is that? Could it be the poison from that scorpion I ate yesterday is now running rampant in my stomach?

No, in that case it wouldn't feel this superficial.

"Pefu! Pephu!"

.....This, it is the ball rabbit's barking sound.

as It drifting in my mind, it seemed to be asking me for help.

Could the ball rabbit be being attacked by other monsters?

Where is it coming from?

When I look around I couldn't see where the voice is coming from.
(A feeling of something desperate striking).

Below?

When I got up, I found the ball rabbit crawling out from a mountain sandy beside me.

The rabbit gasping for oxygen with ragged breaths, and finally after its breathing calms down, it begins to stares back at me with heavy eyes.

Apparently, my turned over while I was asleep, and it seems that I ended up squeezing the ball rabbit into the sandstone.

Also It seems that the that sand settled off my stomach onto the ground was the true obstacle not an enemy.

No, this is bad. This is was really bad.

I thought that the rabbit's body is supposed to bounce back and even out like this type of thing never happened maybe my plan to level it up backfired.

It is acting very sullen and lethargic what is going on. In a panic I started to feed it a bit more cactus and that is when this guy's usual expression returned.

This guy is terrible faker.

Is the only thing you having in your head eating?

After breakfast is over, the ball rabbit is placed on my head and we begin our walk through the desert.

For the time being I want to get the ball rabbit's Lv Up and into its evaluated form. Also I want to eat meat and soon.

Hunting a beast type monster may be a good idea, because then it will raise the ball rabbit's Lv killing two birds with one stone.

I'll have the rabbit defeat an enemy at the top of D rank than that should bring this weak little ball rabbit up to its evolution all at once.

After a while I found a leopard sleeping.

Uh, it seems like the same guy who was being chased by that Great Centipede he must have gotten away after ran away with its full power. [T.N. Chapter 98]

There was unexpected accident this morning but Now I feel fortunate to have gotten up so early.

This distance..... [Status view] can be used?

This skill has been Leveled up so I wonder what will happen, all I can do my best so let's do it.

Race: Gal leopard

Condition: Sleeping (small)

Lv: 27/48

HP: 123/123

MP: 98/98

Attack power: 95

Defense power: 84

Magical power: 99

Quickness: 158

Rank: D +

Characteristic skill:

[Wild intuition: Lv 1] [Olfaction: Lv 2] [Forbearance foot: Lv 2] [Feeling detection: Lv 1] [Crisis detection: Lv 1]

Resistance skill:

[Magic resistance: Lv 3] [Poison resistance: Lv 1]

Normal skill:

[Route: Lv 2] [Bite: Lv 3] [Mirage: Lv 2]

[Beast Tackle: Lv 1] [Quick: Lv 3]

Title Skill:

[The nut of the cat family: Lv 3] [matter Chaser: Lv 2]

[Typhoon Runner: Lv 2]

[T.N.Olfaction means smell]

[Normal Skill [Status Reading] Lv increased from 5 to 6.]

Well, does this means that it isn't distance dependent, or is it?

Well by saying anything this has become one of the skills that I rely on the most so anything is good with me.

If i did not have [rolling] and [status reading] I could not tell how many times that i may have died already.

.....Well, is this to drangrous for the ball rabbit?

All its status are about 20 times that of the ball rabbit.

Whatever you do just try your best not get damaged. Actually if only take its attacks do you still get any experience?

I want to eat meat so I am going to kill it anyways.

I heard that you have good meat, so you are most certainly not going to get away from

me.

Surely if it's status of speed, I will lose easily, but if I use [rolling] then I will win. That I am confident.

I am even willing my stake pride on that fact.

Well, well, so how do we approached it?

I won't be able to catch up while carrying the ball rabbit, if the leopard tries to escape.

Even if I try getting only one strike off without killing it then it will definitely have plenty of time to get away from the rabbit

I should probably drastically weaken it quickly with the first shot.
But when I get closer, the leopard seems like it will wake up.

It seems like the only good plan of attack now is by [rolling] rather than secretly approaching, but then I would have to leave the rabbit unprotected for a while.

Would you mind digging to become hidden?
Oh wait, that's right.

It will be okay if I just put the ball rabbit in my mouth.

With that than the rabbit will be with me when I roll.

doing this will now will also make it will be easier to move from one point to the next now on.

I lower my head to let the ball rabbit down to the ground.

placing my face close to ball rabbit in order to snatch it up into my mouth. Our eyes met and the ball rabbit suddenly started to tremble as if it was having a nightmare.

"Pepper! Phet! Phet!"

it's Face..... Or should I say it's whole body started to shake back and forth, left to right, desperately protesting against me.

Could it be, that can you read my mind?

No, actually it seem to be given me more of a “Even if you eat me i am not really tasty!” kind of reaction.

It’s okay, because I am just putting you in my mouth. It is for safety, for safety.
“Pefu! Pefhu!”

I bring my face closer to the ball rabbit who is still raising its voice in protest.

Moving my neck according to the movement ball rabbit attempts at escape, I catch it in my maul.

“Pephoo !! Pefu !!”

.....I will get quite scolded for this later won’t I?

Well, now there is no choice but to do it. It is an all out charge for the sleeping leopard with [rolling] it is then.

I round my body and head and roll straight towards the panther in a straight line. The leopard awakens and almost instantly leaps up onto its feet.

By that time though I have already reached an extremely high speed.

This new terrain is tough, clear, flat ground with no obstacles; the opposite of the forest in which I was born, so it is the perfect conditions to make full use of [rolling].

I can feel the ball rabbit is raging in my mouth, but it does not matter right now.

I can not stop it now in such a halfway state.

The panthers begins its escape, taking less than two seconds to get up and start sprinting shows this thing true speed.

but this was with my expection. I mean to lie down at such a noticeable place it must have a lot confidence in it’s skills.

Even if it is attack from large centipede, it will be able be able to easily escape with its speed.

To bad for you. You can’t run away from me!

The distance between me and the leopard decreases rapidly.

I thought that I would have catch up with the leopard in a matter of seconds, but I must be a little rustier than I thought.

Even if I am chasing him with only this much though, it seems that the panther on the other hand trying its best.

So it's only a matter of time.

Hey fellow, what is wrong.

The rabbit is as usual freaking out in my mouth.

Please wait still for a while. Because you will get swallowed if you move around to much.

Chapter 105

Desert race

The Leopard ran in a straight line, in an attempt to escape me.

But as speed goes I am a little faster, so the distance between us started to shrink.
Wow it is not as fast as I had thought.

I was refraining a little from using everything I had because I feel I would most likely swallow the rabbit, but maybe I should try to speed up little more?

When I was thinking of what to do the leopard's body suddenly started to emit a dim light and its speed started to accelerate.

it must have used its [Quick] skill.

The large centipede didn't hold back when it was chasing the leopard.

You know I should also give everything I got to beat this leopard.

Starting to feel the ball rabbit beginning its protest with its disheveled ears against the inside of my mouth, but even so I still start to increase my rotation speed.

Just a little longer, wait for me just a little bit, I will catch up soon.

The distance between the leopard and I now slow begin to narrow again.

I have him.

All that remains is a single scratch from my [Paralysis claw] to put a stop to its movement and defeat it.

The leopard glances it head over its shoulder to find me hot on its tail.

it seems to almost project the idea of impatience from its face.

With the distance shrinking by the moment, I focus my consciousness back at the leopard, whose figure seems to subtly shimmer.

I learned deeply when you are away from the poison spider.
Right beside a large rock, the leopard abruptly stopped.

Now is the time to catch him!

The leopard has made a horrible mistake. Now it is the perfect time to trap him against the rock.

With my speed, I will surely overtake the trapped leopard.

The moment I thought I hit the leopard, the figure of leopard disappeared, and a big rock was found in its place.

I'm such a fool, this rock, I thought it should have been a little more towards the left.
It got me!

the Leopard, he must have been running a little more towards the right.

maybe it was do to that guy's [mirage] skill, he must have shifted the scene in front of me to the left a little.

The Leopard stopped, and it looked back towards me happily- with a calm and composed grim on its face.

Oh wait, this guy might have to have have line of sight if he wants to launch that [mirage] skill.

Not this time! I am not going to give you time to try tricking me again.

My body rotating at high speed collides into the large rock.

Crunching sounds explode off the rock as my scales violently cut its surface leaving large pieces of it scattered about.

While significantly slowed down, I ricochet off the rock aim to ram the leopard with [roll] mid air.

As the leopard watches this take place its whole body became rigid in moments, and its eyes and mouth shot wide open in fear.

Without a moment's delay though the leopard began to run again at full speed again.

This time in an attempt to get away from the creature launching itself towards him.

The leopard tries to propel itself off the ground in an attempt to change the direction of its body from my collision course. Sadly for him though in his attempt to dive and escape from my trajectory it forgot one thing.

The rock and all the scattered debris that I left around after my last attack.

“Guuwao’!”

The Leopard faltered.

Turning around I roll back and over the top of the leopard driving away some of the nearby rocks.

There with this that should broken quite a few bones. Now it is time to finish it.

Releasing the [roll] I punch off of the ground jumping onto the leopard.

Extending my claw I activate [paralysis claw] , And leave gash on the now defeating the leopard.

Checking his stat I see [paralysis (large)], so I guess that it is time to start expectorating the ball rabbit into my claws.

Wow, He is really wet with saliva.

I definitely don’t want to put it back on my head.

Unexpectedly when I gaze at the expression of the Ball rabbit it begins swinging its ears towards me and using them to whip across my face.

No, this is not good.

I guess I was right after all, and this is was truly a little to unreasonable making him do this wasn’t it.

Someday when I meet back up with the black lizard again I was thinking about how I would travel around with it, which includes having it traveling in my mouth.

That is way I tested it on the rabbit now It seem that you probably won’t be poisoned riding in my mouth unless you are accidentally bitten while in the mouth I guess.

There does remain the possibility that when the slime took the skill of [detoxification]

the original copy could disappear so it is better to be safe than sorry.

I mean I don't want all the good memories being ruined by accidentally annihilating everyone at home

Lowering the rabbit to the land, I order it with my eyes to attack the leopard.

Rabbit then came up to my feet in silence, and began to hit my foot its whip ears.

Not me, It's over there!

We can wash your body later, when we head towards the sea! I also to want to wash off!

After the Ball Rabbit attacked me for a while, it started to head towards the leopard.

Perhaps if I do nothing and leave things as they are now like it never happen then I think that rabbits impression of me that I have been building up so far has plummeted about three levels.

But, as expected once the ball rabbit started its attack there are no difference in the leopard's health.

The leopard didn't take a single point of damage from all the blows of the ball rabbit ear whip attack.

The Leopard after taking three consecutive hits of [LIGHT] , does not move one eyelid and just stares at the ball rabbit.

Was I too greedy?

Should I aim for a weaker monster?

It is meaningless if we wait any longer. It is likely that the paralysis will be over soon too.

Well, since I hit it so it is paralysed for the time being, but it is not unlimited and even if I do nothing I will still be getting some of the experience anyways... Wow, he has now started biting and cutting it.

Was the bunny actually this hungry for food.

Damage, it is starting to subtly go through.

Once he found the torn bare skin, which looked to be the least protective he began eaten the leopard alive.

It was quite a fierce picture to see.

Really I wonder if it is a good idea to keep trying to evolve this guy. It looks it could be some ridiculous monster.

The leopard had [paralysis (large)] so I watched and waited for when its state would change to the [paralysis (middle)] then I stabbed the leopard in the neck with my claw killing it.

[Experience value got 108.]

[Title skills [Walking Egg: Lv-] an additional experience value of 108 was obtained.]

[[Evil Disease Dragon] Lv went up from 20 to 22.]

It almost feels like that the experience obtained has decreased, even though it put up such a good fight to only give this much experience.

Until about Lv40 I will likely be able to easily level up.

Then it will probably be difficult to level up to Lv75, so I am expecting this to be longer than I expected.

Also once I get to Lv70 I am guessing my leveling up will likely stagnate... but because I have the Walking Egg's doping effect at least it is not as bad as it could be.

Also due to the [Dragon Scale Powder] I will likely have to live alone for all those year to come. I may even have a lonely death.

As of right now though, things seem to be ok.

It is a shame I did not have the opportunity to try [Plague Breath] but as of now it wouldn't serve much of a purpose and be a waste of time.

So now, let's get going to the sea. There's a lot of salt there to enhance the taste the leopard meat.

Also, it will help the mood pass to go wash off.

After all, this was for the ball rabbit's experience. I wonder how much it has leveled up.

Chapter 106

Grilled meat on the beach

For the time being let's separate the ball rabbit from the leopard.

I am taking it away it tastes better cooked.

Do not just look back at me.

Do not resist, your nails will get stuck!

Race: Small Ball Rabbit

Condition: Normal

Lv: 6/12

HP: 10/31

MP: 0/18

Attack power: 12

Defense power: 18

Magical power: 25

Quickness: 20

Rank: E-

Characteristic skill:

[hide: Lv 1] [Food Reproduction: Lv 2]

Resistance skill:

[Starvation tolerance: Lv 4] [Poison tolerance: Lv 1] [Overeating tolerance: Lv 1]

Normal skill:

[Dig: Lv2] [light: Lv2] [feigning death: Lv1]

Wild whip dance: Lv 1] [swallowing: Lv 1] [Internal Storage Space: Lv 1]

[charm: Lv 1] [bite through: Lv 1]

Title Skill:

[Desert idle: Lv 2] [kin eating: Lv 1] [Lv up parasite : Lv 2] [big eater: Lv 3]

Now it is half-way from evolving again.....

Because it is in the ranking upper, I thought that it jumped up to MAX lv but it I guess I might have been a bit of stretch. It could also be that it was not really fighting hard enough, or because he was a level 0 or something.

Because the doping power of the [Walking Egg] I may not understand the sheer amount experience points needed, but it is not like it did not go up at all.

Maybe because I was a person who jumped from F to D in his first evolution, I guess I do not understand the extent of the experience value required to evolve E rank.....

Perhaps the amount of experience value obtained has decreased due to the title of [Lv up parasite] leveling up?

Well, to level up requires experience points so it may be important whether what the individual actual experienced was really important.

If that is the case though, I caught off guard a monster while it was sleeping with a lower rank and kill it when it was paralysis and couldn't move, what about this is a difficult experience?

No, it is probably rather that I interfered a little too much with this experience.

It will likely to take until D rank till the rabbit is able to fight for itself... But till that time, it seems that it will be difficult to fight as it is now.

With the next evolution, I hope that it will be big enough to dig me up at home.

Biting the scorpion, crushing him with a body press while sleeping, and making it sticky with saliva makes me think that my favorable status is probably dead due to that triple combo, but I still wonder if it will still make me a house?

For the time being, I begin the task of disassembling the leopard, away from ball rabbit.

It makes easier to carry by collecting only the parts that are easier to eat. I just remove the head, organs, skin parts, and store the rest of it in my arms.

I somewhat have also started to get used to this kind of work as well.

Meanwhile, it seems that my skills of dismantling the good parts of bodies seem to be getting better.

I intended to throw away harder to carry parts in the desert, but ball rabbit quickly became attached to the remaining internal organs.

I guess this is OK if he eats them.

Wow, It swallowed the leopards' whole head. I mean it is even bigger than his own. It was quite a grotesque scene, and now it almost seems like a dream. How can it really fit inside of his belly?

To be be able not get fat even after how much you are eating. You are transferring it to some sort of subspace, are not you?

I put the ball rabbit dripping from my drool onto my head and head out for the sea.

But is this not useless? After all it is easy to roll with it in the mouth. Also I'm going to be going to the sea more often from now on so it is ok that you can get a bit dirty, isn't it?

As if reading my intention, the ball rabbit strikes my head with both of its ears.

Yeah I can not do that don't worry.

After Walking for awhile I finally arrive at the beach.

Even though the ocean is beside here, I why this is such a dry area...?

Well, it can not be helped, even if I could pull the common sense from my previous life in a magical world.

But it reminds me, I remember hearing about a desert with a river. I am pretty certain, doesn't rain in this climate because of the air current.

I wonder if it is the same way here.

Let's try to learn about the common sense of this new world, but for now I will start cooking meat.

I'll let the ball rabbit down from the head for the time being.

Placing the leopard fur I brought along with me, I arrange the cuts of meat out on to the fur in an attempt to prevent from sand from getting on the meat.

I start by digging a hole in the beach, once deep enough I start scooping handfuls of seawater and start collecting it in the newly formed trough.

When I accumulated enough sea water, I released one of my scorching breath attacks.

heating that water evaporates it leaving only the salt behind. It is a bit odd.

Would the smell go away if I added little more heat?

No, actually it may make the smell worse so let's go as it is.

I coat a piece of the raw meat with the salt.

While holding back the power of my scorching breath slowly I apply a low flame to both sides and wait for the color change.

I cook the meat till it is about medium so that inside is still a little red.

It's hard to do, but it looks pretty good.

Phi perries would be amazing right now because it would make it difficult to pinpoint that the peculiar smell of cooked meat if any carnivorous beast comes browsing around.

When I was eating insects I did not mind at all about the smell, but since I was living a fulfilling life in that cave my tongue has become far more picky.

(But now I have the strong scent of the boiled sea water which I attempt to mask by adding more salt.)

It would be better if you had a less salty taste. Should I dilute it a little more next time a bit more?

Once it is salted, dry it and remove it, you can get a smell. Even though I try to erase the smell with herbs, there is only cactus here. ,

Phi perries were wonderful, who knows when I will be see them again.

[Title skill [cook] 's Lv has risen from 3 to 4.]

Oh, it has gone up after such a long absence.

I hope someday I can use this skill when I become a humanoid.

I put together another piece of meat, and make various improvements the the recipe, then cook some of the meat again.

After the ball rabbit rabbit finished bathing, enchanted by the smell was lured back.

Finished with his bath he was dripping wet as he continued dragging its damp ears back with it along with a lot sand.

I am a little concerned, but what will you do fall down?

Sniffing the meat, It looks back up at me and see if He can eat it.

His eyes shine brightly with glee.

If only I could prepare some rice, than I could can make a lot more recipes you would like.

From the point of view of speed [rolling] is the quickest method of movement.

Also it turns out that once ball rabbit get mad the fast way to recover from that is feeding it meat.

.....When I was thinking about this though, I notice the ball rabbit was staring at my eyes.

Well I am only thinking about this if something urgent happens and we need a means to get away. If we chased by that big centipede, we need to flee [roll].

If I'm alone depending on the situation I think I will be able to escape but in the case, that ball rabbit is caught it will most certainly die.

When we finished eating the leopard meat, we travelled to the sea to wash off in.

Not after cleaning up we are back off to raise the Lv of the ball rabbit, and the verify the ability of [plague breath].

Chapter 107

Three headed camel

We finished eating on the beach, I placed the rabbit on my head, and started walking through the desert looking for our next prey.

If we find a D ranked monster I will need to make ball rabbit participate in the fight only after the opponent is completely unable to move, but if the enemy of E + rank is just right level for the ball rabbit to fight alone.

I guess I can fight a bit with the ball rabbit if it comes down to it though.

Though it seems that the ball rabbit is more of a magical specialist, but I am afraid that its MP is 0.

I thought about letting him go home now, but considering [Dragon Scale] , and I can not say how much longer you will still be safe.

If the ball rabbit is too weak, it may lead to its the death.

Originally it is doubtful whether the disease of the dragon scales will even heal if I leave as soon as the signs start to appear.

I think today's development of the ball rabbit should end here, and instead should I concentrate on the experimenting with [plague breath] ?

Either way, I can not leave the ball rabbit alone and it can't safely leave me.

For now I'll test the [plague breath] , and if there is enough time I can raise the level of the ball rabbit.

By the way, the ball rabbit has spread several pieces of meat on my head and is now slowly eating then.

It seems that he really likes roasted leopard meat, he seems to be consuming it greedily.

It's okay, but please stop eating so seriously on my head.

Enjoying a meal leisurely while looking at the scenery, I am jealous.

Someday if it evolves and get bigger than me I would like to ride on his head.

No, way that would probably be impossible to do so.

While carefully trying not to drop the rabbit or his meat, the three-necked camel that I saw earlier became visible in the distance.

As usual it is grotesque appearance gave me goosebumps across my whole body.

It does not look all that appetising, but are these things delicious? I wonder if I should possibly go deep-sea fishing instead.

A round plump camel so there surely must be quite a good amount of fat on him at least.

Because I had leopard meat, I guess I will try eating at least a bit of him.

Having seemingly noticed my gaze the camel started its escape. However, it's legs are slow.

It must be due to it's such unbalanced body.

I can easily shorten the distance just by walking. It's a good enough speed that I can still be steady enough not to shake the ball rabbit off while it's eating.

Even if it is, I am guessing that he will be done eating it soon anyways.

It will be a bit shaky, after all it will be a battle.

If the rabbit does not hold on well, then he will will fall off.

With the intention of giving a light warning, I gently shake my head.

"Phew!?"

A piece of meat fell along with the cries of the ball rabbit.

[the piece of my fell with a slump on my face.

Licking it off my face tongue I finish it.

Well, did I cut it a little thin and salt it a little much?

It may be i should have dried the meat a little more.

“Pefu.....”

From overhead, I hear the barking sound of ball rabbit.

It seems that it was the latter.

I kick the ground and jump using my wings for extra lift high into the sky.

Descending to the ground i turn around to confront the three headed camel.

I should probably who confirming its status before I fight it.

Race: Motorikemel

Condition: Normal

Lv: 8/31

HP: 78/78

MP: 67/67

Attack power: 52

Defense power: 48

Magical power: 23

Quickness: 28

Rank: D-

Characteristic skill:

帶食 [Cookery: Lv 4]

[concealment: Lv 1] [Auto HP Recovery: Lv 1]

[Two head: Lv-] [schizophrenia: Lv -]

Resistance skill:

[Poison resistance: Lv 2] [Fire resistance: Lv 1]

Normal skill:

[Rock Wall: Lv 2] [Sand Storm: Lv 1]

[Aqua: Lv 1] [Rest: Lv 1]

Title Skill:

[Cactus Eater: Lv 2]

[schizophrenia: a mental disorder that sques your perception of reality but in this case it likely refers to having multiple heads and multiple personalities. || Also the Cooking skill is likely wrong when looking up the characters the best I could come up with is “demon diet” but Google translate gave me that.]

D – Rank?

Well... there are no attack skills and it is in the experience field of sending sending the ball rabbit.

Even though it has more heads, there are a lot of characteristic skills reminiscent of twin headed dog from last time.

By the way twin heads have that ability to use different skills with their left and right heads, I guess that might be sorted out in advance.

Maybe it is decided which skills each of the heads use from the time they are born?

I definitely do not plan to become a double headed type dragon, but I am a little worried.

““““Noguehae””””

The three heads, gathered together, and all raise their voices simultaneously.

I breathe in and accumulate magical power in the back of my throat.

It was my first time using the skill, but somehow, I understood it instinctively.

The breath of stagnant stagnation came closer to the three headed camel.

The three headed camel tried to step out of the way and avoid being blown away.

The aim is not blowing away the camel, but to check the performance of the [Plague Breath].

As I exhaled my [Plague Breath] , the three-neck camel its feet stopped.

There is no change in appearance.

Should I check its status?

Race: Motorikemel

Condition: Curse (small)

Lv: 8/31

HP: 73/78

MP: 67/67

Although there was a status difference, there was only a little damage.

It was obvious at a glance that it did not cause direct damage.

More than that, state..... [Curse (small)] ?

Another unusual abnormality state came out.

There is no change in the appearance of the three-neck camel.

Well, if it is something concerning abnormality conditions than he [God's voice] can teach me.

Although I was let down in the explanation of [Poison α] , that was probably just because the Lv of the [God's voice] was too low at that time.

Now that my skill has gone up so much there is a good chance of answering.

[Status unusual [curse]]

Is it going to help?

[The state abnormality in which the vitality and physical abilities gradually decline.]

[Progression is slower than poison, but there is limited means to remove this abnormality state.]

[If it is a light [curse] , the effect will be diminished and disappear naturally if you keep a distance from the magician.]

.....It seems that the curse is completely treated as a disease.

However, in any case, it is in the category of a light [curse] so it is like a disease that it leaks from my wings, unlike the direct application that occurs with [Plague Breath]. If I see something disturbing in the status of the ball rabbit, can I avoid the worst situation if I break up with him quickly?

Anyway, there is something definite with this.

The [dragon scale] and [Plague Breath] are obstacles to making friends and it is not a skill that can be used in battles.

the three headed camels, although it is [curse] I am holding down.

As described in the explanation, it seems to be a long-time effect skill.

Chapter 108

Meat of a camel

The three-headed camel turns around, turning his back to me.

He seems to think that he can still run away.

Piercing the camel I quickly make a shallow incision along its back using my [paralysis claw].

""Veee'!""

Three heads, almost at the same time screamed.

While trembling it's feet, the camel collapsed on to the ground.

[Normal skill · [Paralysis Claw] Lv increased from 3 to 4.]

I confirmed that the state [paralysis] has been added, and then I set the ball rabbit on to the ground.

"Pefu"

Ball Rabbit approached the three-headed camel while rubbing its ears against the ground.

As soon as Ball Rabbit got close to camel, he climbed on to its neck and started biting the camel's body.

I thought that the damage would not be good enough go through because its is staggering larger, but it would be good if rabbit can deliver at least 1 damage to the camel.

Cry of three-head's of fallen camel echoes around.

This scene is quite grotesque,.

Rabbits are not usually aggressive like this one, but maybe my education is bad.

Was it bad to force rabbit to battle, or make it remember the taste of meat?

I don't remember it getting any strange title skill.

The state of the camel changes from [curse · paralysis] to [curse · paralysis (small)].

I need to kill it soon.

“Ehebushi’!”

When I tried to withdraw the Ball Rabbit, one of the head’s of camel, made a strange cough.

No way, is this from the effect of [curse] from [plague breath] ?

“Guruguaatsu!”

I ordered a ball rabbit to withdraw, and used [scorching breath] on camel. The body of the three-head camel becomes surrounded by crimson flames.

[Experience value got 32.]

[Title skills [Walking Egg: Lv-] additional experience value of 32 was obtained]

Without holding back, I was spray my flames with full power. Only leaving a little charred residue behind.

“Pefuu.....”

After looking at the remains of the three-headed camel, the ball rabbit looked downwards with a sad expression.

I might have been a little too relaxed knowing that the abnormal condition [curse] causes a sickness.

I wonder if this is [curse] is infectious or not infecting, but it probably is.

Just watching the head of the camel begin coughing, I realized at that time I was forced to change my plan.

When you see that situation, you can think of it more as a sickness or something, rather than a curse.

Are you okay?

You didn’t catch anything right?

Or rather, did the raw meat of camel taste awful.

That was not bad, was it?

I check the status of the Ball Rabbit.

Race: Small Ball Rabbit

state : normal

Lv: 10/12

HP: 39/39

MP: 0/28

attack force: 16

defense: 22

magic force: 30

quickness: 24

rank: E-

characteristic skills:

[concealment: Lv1] [food reproduction: Lv3]

resistant skills:

[starvation tolerance: Lv4] [poison-resistant: Lv1]

[overeating tolerance: Lv1]

normal skills:

[dig: Lv2] [light: Lv2] [Feigning Death: Lv1]

[wild whip dancing: Lv3] [Swallow: Lv1] [Internal Storage Space: Lv1]

[Charm: Lv1] [Thousand cuts eater: Lv1 2]

[Rest: Lv1]

title skills:

[Idol of the desert: Lv2] [Kin eater: Lv1] [Lv up Parasite: Lv2]

[Big Eater: Lv3]

...For the time being, it's okay.

Now it is better to pay a bit more attention when doing experiments with [plague breath].

No, I won't do this again.

This little child is learning.

The memory of the ridiculous things that I had to do evolve, even though, It took a lot

of hardships.

If the ball rabbit can use [rest] it will make exploring the desert quite a bit easier. On the contrary to me who is relieved, the ball rabbit inflates its cheeks and appears to be disturbed as it taps the ground with its long ears. It seems that he wanted to eat the meat of a camel. I wonder if it's worried... Well, it is because of my carelessness. The ball rabbit try eating the ashy remains of the camel, but only then spits out charcoal while squealing "Picot".

No, it is impossible. You can't eat it. I think burying it was still better idea. When I was watching ball rabbit I started while laughing, but than it turn around and stared at me.

It's so funny, did you see your expression? Are you mad because I just made camel char? I lightly tapped my cheek with the palm of my hand.

I do not think that it will appear in the expression, but because of scales there maybe is a little wrinkle.

I wonder if he can understand it from the shape of my eyes. I caress the head of the ball rabbit while paying close attention to my claws.

ball rabbit says, "Because it is devastated to such a thing! Even after saying that even though it diverted his face from me, he was narrowing his eyes with a pleasant feeling within ten seconds. When I stroke my ear, I relax with a sound "Pheu".

It may be itchy because it rubbed the ground well.

It is likely to be full of sand, but I'll sweep the dirt lightly for the time being. When I looked down on the face of the ball rabbit when I finished dropping the dirt on my ear, he felt asleep fast as he closed my eyes.

This guy, is frightening regardless of meals.

He seems easy to fall in a bad mood for the time being. Trying to not wake him up, I carefully put the rabbit on my head.

Fighting the leopard and the camel, Ball Rabbit is also getting tired.
Today, I moved quite well.

I am the one who walked, but he's getting tired even if he's riding on me.

I was careful, but I had no choice but to shake it all the time.
I will walk to where there is a cactus and decide to take a day off again today.
"H..... Hepusui!"
Ball Rabbit that was placed on the head, cried quietly.

I do not feel like he's moving at all.
"Gugaa'?"
Even though I try to talk to you, there is no reaction at all.

How deep is your sleep?

Chapter 109

Huge centipede

In the morning, I awake on the barren sand.

It was still the second day, but I felt like I was already getting used to sleeping on the bare ground.

I Confirm the ball rabbit's safety as it exits the sandy mountain, I feel a little relieved.

Actually I wanted to sleep a bit more, but I am sensing an intense creature is approaching.

Because of my skill [Presence Sense] is reacting it to it I can not fall back asleep.

It is easy to be found by the enemy because the neighborhood is vacant, but it is also an advantage because I don't have to try to be able to find the enemy if they are far away.

Getting up I twist my neck, and quickly find the root of the signature.

It was a huge sand centipede charging towards me creating a trail of dust behind them.

Well, should we run away?

The ball rabbit is bad at getting up, but I think it needs to get up and quickly get inside my mouth.

If I ran like normal, and if it chased me, then it would surely catch up to me.

Oh wait... It is not that far from us.

But I get the feeling he isn't headed toward us..... Why are you running then?

A carriage was running ahead of the huge centipede.

Two big horses that have never been seen since my previous life are lined up, and are pulling the horse carriage at full power.

However, it doesn't seem to be enough against the huge centipede.

As it is, the horse-drawn carriage will be destroyed by huge centipede.

Damn it!

Why is there a wagon trying to break through the desert when there is such a big monster!

I confirmed the sandy mound that is the ball rabbit with a glance, and start running after the huge centipede.

There is no chance of winning by fighting against an opponent of that size, but I should be able to catch up the huge centipede and escape with the carriage.

I can escape into the air if it get dangerous.

Let's just provoke it and break away quickly.

I'll come back and collect the ball rabbit again after the situation has cooled down.

Do not get eaten while I am away...

He survived by himself before I came, so it should be okay if I take my eyes off him for a bit, but I am a little worried.

I also think that it would be better to bring him in my mouth, but if I do it, I would be in more danger...

Unlike the leopard and the camel I can beat one hand.

There is a possibility that I may be pressed into using my breath and biting techniques, and if that happens I can't protect you inside of battle.

I use [Roll] to chase the huge centipede.

I never thought that I would chase an opponent one moment than be trying to escape the next moment.

The huge centipede ignores me and chases the carriage.

Tch! I concentrate myself and charge forward.

I try to get its attention on purpose, but I'm totally ignored.

The winner it seems for the best to eat in the desert is horses or a humans rather than dragons.

Even me, when I was a baby dragon I was treated as a premium ingredient!

Meanwhile, the horses that are pulling the carriage catches sight of me.

I do not understand the expression of a horse, but I can understand that is has has a bitter look on there faces

I came to help, but...

Well, I do understand the horse's feelings though.

If I was running in the desert, chased by the gigantic centipede, it seems that it is the end of this world, and then a big scaly masses roll behind them.

Buddha in hell, Enma in hell.

I would definitely think it as the finishing blow, and not a salvation.

I gathered my strength and accelerated all at once, using a small hill to rocket into the sky.

Throwing my whole body into it I aim for crushing the huge centipede's tail, but unexpectedly the centipede's body was too hard and could not be crushed.

I run around and to the right of it, but since I did not have a way to shift the huge centipede's target to me, I decided to follow the huge centipede.]

That guy seems to be the type to once it puts its eyes on his target, that it will not easily transfer to something else.

Even if I can successfully move its target to me, I wonder whether I can run away while keeping it attention.

Although the huge centipede was hit hard in the tail, the giant centipede speed only slightly decelerated, but it was once again starting to accelerate and return to the original speed.

We steadily fill in the distance between the carriage.

I never stopped my [Roll] skill when I tackled.

If it won't stop at a single shot, than I just need to keep hitting it as many times as I want.

When the distance between the huge centipede and me has shrunk, I use [Status check].

After confirming this guys skills, it's just a matter of running away while gathering his attention.

Race: Giant Sand Centipede

Condition: Normal

Lv: 62/80

HP: 448/448

MP: 236/236

Attack power: 324

Defense power: 297

Magical power: 194

Speed: 234

Rank: B

Characteristic skill:

[Many Legs: Lv -] , [King's shell : Lv 6] , [Earth attribute: Lv -] , [Auto HP Recovery: Lv 5] , [Presence Sense: Lv 4]

Resistance skill:

[Physical resistance: Lv 5] [Magic resistance: Lv 2] [Fall resistance: Lv 4] [Poison resistance: Lv6] [Paralysis resistance: Lv 2] [Confusion resistance: Lv 2] [Sleep

resistance: Lv 3]

Normal skill:

[Venom fang: Lv 5] [Dig: Lv 6] [Sand Bless: Lv 4] [Earth Wall: Lv 3] [Paralysis Bite: Lv 2] [Acid Spit: Lv 4] [Heat ray: Lv 3]

Title Skill:

[Hundred Legs King: Lv-] [Lord of the Desert: Lv 6] [Escape: Lv 4] [Obsession: Lv 6] [Chaser: Lv 5] [Last evolutionist: Lv -]

I was expecting it to have high stats, but this is making me worried.

B rank Lv 62, this is way too much of a monster.

[Attack power: 324] , it's at a level that could KO you if you receive a direct hit.

I am just happy to finally hit 200 attack at last.

It seems like it will have some severe consequences if I just run away after I provoke it.

Or rather, what the heck is [Heat ray] ?

Maybe it is its way of long range attacks?



Chapter 110

King Centipede

The carriage being chased by the huge centipede seems to be nearing its limit soon.

The breath of the horse is staggering, unable to endure the speed; the wheel of the carriage begins to creak.

Disregarding how the carriage looks, it's quite firm. The form is simple and without decoration. The wheels are too big, unshapely even, as if it was built being unaware of its size. I don't know its intended purpose but it seems to be strong. But, it can crash at anytime if it continues at its present speed.

I relaxed my rolling after getting close enough to the huge centipedes tail, I stretch out a claw and throw myself. It had [Paralysis resistance] but this should work even if a little bit! Using the speed of the turn I flung myself like a brick with [Paralysis claw].

It is resisted by the body's sand-colored surface, and a claw is broken.

The body is too hard. This... is not only because of its defense. If I recall, this is probably the characteristic skill I saw of the giant centipede [Kings Shell]. I wasn't able to break the surface; I instead received a little bit of damage!

I managed to regain my collapsed posture by force, and then stabbed my fang at the exact same spot my claw was beaten up.

Did it stick?

Yes, but it is shallow. Although the surface of the huge centipede became recessed and my teeth caved in, they are not broken. I guess it is too hard. I thought my fang would break.

I can't release it here. Hanging by the fangs of my lower jaw, I gnaw at the huge centipede. Although I managed to hurt it, my abdomen rubbed against the desert land.

Compared to the back, the belly has thinner scales. It is painful being dragged. It hurts

and is starting to burn. It's a momentum that is likely to catch fire with friction.

Moreover, I can't do anything or else I won't be able to hold on. I can't afford to let it go. If I open my mouth here I will fall behind. The carriage cannot endure that speed anymore.

"GuuuuuUU!"

I raise my voice while my mouth is closed. The huge centipede ignores it and keeps running.

Even if I try putting in more of my weight as much as possible, I guess it's almost unchanged. This guy, what did you eat to manage this? Oh, a carriage or something. Well, I will grow up. It's more like it's been eating a lot of trees.

Although it is slight, it is definitely slowing down. The horse-drawn carriage is faster if it's dragging me. The distance with the carriage is beginning to open steadily.

But I cannot keep going in my present condition. My belly is still rubbing and its nearing its limit. The horse carriage will slow down at a stretch soon, as you could see the fatigue of the horse. If this continues, I will also reach the same state.

However, I can't do anything with my hands just floating here, in the first place this position is a little... The centipede will catch up with the carriage any moment, and at that point all you could do is maintain the status quo. Isn't there something good?

"GIGIJJJJJJJJJJlishi!"

The huge centipede roars loudly. The horse staggered a bit from that but it picked up quickly.

That was close, lets cool down, cool... cool. The moment when I felt relieved, I can see a red light gathering on the head of the gigantic centipede. This was this possibly the long-distance skill of the gigantic centipede that I checked a while ago, [Heat ray]!!!?

If a beam like that leaves such a big body the carriage will be blown away. Just looking at it you could tell it is not a small technique. It is a single blow certain death type of skill. I managed to change the way it was going about it, but it would be nice if you would change your target.

Is there any way to stop it? No, it is impossible. I will not even reach it with the maximum speed of [Roll]. It's not something that you have to stop. If I could divert the trajectory of [Heat ray] even a little, I will be able to manage.

Fortunately, the gigantic centipede seems to be fully concentrated on preparation for [Heat ray], and it slows down a little. If it's like this, I can also adjust my position. I managed to lift my legs to a standing position; I pull out my claws and stomp in the desert sand.

With this, stop eeeH!

While loudly scattering dust clouds I continue to be dragged forward. Although I was able to slow it down again, the gigantic centipede still does not stop. Moreover, it aligns the tip of its head with the carriage and is preparing to emit a [Heat ray]. It is already an atmosphere where it will shoot anytime.

At this point I can't just stop it. Right now, at this moment, I have to change the direction of the giant centipede.

Then, how about this. I spread my wings while biting its back and kick the ground with full power and jump.

The lower body of the giant centipede floated in the air. My body dances in the sky like a kite and is swung around by the running centipede. I cannot lift anymore. That fellow can still run in such a state?

A bright red light is emitted in a straight line from the head of the gigantic centipede. The point where the light goes through greatly shakes. It has a considerable heat.

The giant centipede moves its head to adjust the angle which was forcibly changed. While burning off the sand, the aim of the light moves left and right. The shaking ray goes behind the carriage, to its sides and in front. The sand where the light rays hit makes a "jiyuushi" sound and leaves black burn marks.

This is bad, it'll hit the carriage at this rate. That's it. Since I'm in the air I start moving my body recklessly. The aim of the light rays becomes confusing.

A light ray grazed the upper part of the carriage. The part broke and was scattered catching fire. What... are you kidding me? No, it'll disappear at this rate... or.

It burnt down the cactus in an irrelevant direction, and the [Heat ray] stopped. Have you managed to get away? It is a tremendous power. I will die if I were to directly receive such a thing.

When I took a breath of relief, the giant centipede began accelerating again. Did it direct its focus it had for [Heat ray] to running?

The gigantic centipede puts weight on its lower body and is going back to the ground. Even though I tried to fly backwards with my wings fluttering, the fight was futile and I was sent flying towards the desert sand instead.

There was a strong pain in my fangs. I was shocked by the impact. I was flung off the shell of the giant centipede against the ground, and a fang was taken away.

Naturally I could not keep on struggling and I was released. I was hitting the ground vigorously rolling on the spot. The giant centipede released from me accelerates and keeps chasing the carriage. Was it because it was lighter? It is faster than it was in the beginning.

I got up in a hurry after stopping from rolling even if I was in a dazed state. The giant centipede accelerates and the carriage slows down as the horse is exhausted. Before saying whether I can stop it or not, I thought that things would end before I caught up. That was clear to me.

I waste a thought and stand up ignoring the pain. I can see my own fang with flesh in sight, but immediately concentrate my consciousness only on the giant centipede in front of me. Do not think about anything unnecessary. Now, just think about catching up to that.

Chapter 111

Escape

I desperately roll chasing after the giant centipede.

Although I lose in speed I am still faster using [Roll]. Going my max is difficult as I lose my fine control. I don't know much about complicated terrain but I have the advantage in the open desert.

However, I still won't make it in time. The giant centipede will destroy the carriage faster than me getting there. Well let's not think about anything unnecessary. Run, Run, and Run!!! I can't do anything other than keep chasing using [Roll]. There's no helping it if I think of unnecessary things.

The distance between the giant centipede and the carriage shrinks. When I thought that it was finished, the fire on the upper part of the carriage burned down the curtain that covered the rear which was used to conceal the contents of the carriage. The burnt cloth dances in the air and covers the head of the giant centipede.

It was a miraculous position and timing. I thought that I could earn a little time with this, but I didn't even have a second. The cloth fly's behind immediately. It did not disturb the giant centipedes running.

I set my eyes into the now bare carriage.

Inside, there it was packed with people riding. There were various people, from an elderly man to tiny girls who are not even 10. Everyone has beast ears on top of their heads. I remember the dog eared girl who was beside the woman swordsman at that time in the cave.

Besides the beast ears on their heads, it is a normal human being, but is he a beast person? It was the second time I've seen it so it did not surprise me. Everyone was wearing tattered cloths, I was worried that their hands were fitted in wooden boards.

A fat man appeared behind the beast people. They wore a white cloth on their head and it has a gaudy appearance with gold decorations. It is clearly different from others.

The fat man cried out something and kicked one of the beats people down. I did not know what to do for a moment.

The kicked beastman falls from the carriage, strikes their back against the ground and convulses. The giant centipede slows down, opens its mouth, and eats the beastman who fell from the carriage. Beating another beastman trying to resist, they threw a small child to the giant centipede. Then one person after the next.

After eight people were dropped, the giant centipede completely stopped. It began concentrating on eating the people who were dropped. In that gap, the carriage steadily escapes. The fat man laughed satisfactorily after wiping the sweat off their forehead and went back to the depths of the carriage.

Cruel.

It is too cruel.

I understand that if you did not do it the entire carriage would be caught and everyone will be dead. Still, it's too terrible. Why is that guy laughing, after leaving them to get eaten by the monster?

By the time I caught up with the monster, less than half of the people had survived. Because they were thin, the body may have been weak in the first place. It seems that some of them died by being dropped from the running carriage. But, for a moment I thought that it was good that they died from the drop instead. It's too terrible to be eaten while crying alive.

“Oh.....”

Looking at the voice, it was a human being who had half of their body eaten and torn. Immediately the remaining upper body was also eaten by the giant centipede and disappeared.

“GIGIJJJJJJJJish!”

The giant centipede makes and unpleasant sound and laughs.

I spread my wings, kicked the ground and flew up into the sky vigorously. My body moved in anger without even thinking. I target the head of the giant centipede from high in the sky and fall in a straight line.

Even if there would not be much damage, this should still hurt it a little, I will put all of my force into this one blow. If it doesn't work, well it can't be helped.

The giant centipede shakes its body and parries me who fell vertically side sweeping its tail. The impact passes through my scales and resonates in the bone. I was thrown away beautifully and thrust head first into the ground.

The surroundings are hazy. My body is heavy. I barely managed to shake off the sand with trembling arms. The giant centipede was without damage.

I understood it with the blow just now. Even with the same rank, the 40 level difference is like a thick wall. It is impossible for me to defeat him. I may not even be thought of as an enemy if I think about it, it's embarrassing so let's not. At best, im prey. A low priority, poor quality, obstructive prey.

Also, my side was warm. Oh, it's blood. It's not my blood though. Looking back, the hollowed organs of a man with spilled entrails was there. Did I hit him when I was sent flying?

"GUuRUGUaaaaaAAshi!"

I blow [Scorching Breath] at the giant centipede. While praying that I obstructed his view I jumped towards a human.

I scooped them up in my mouth, sand and all. It's a person with the least amount of injuries.

"GIGIJIJIJIJIJIJIJIJIJIJIJIJIJI!"

Since the giant centipede thinks I stole its prey, it makes a sound of anger. It shakes its big body again making the same motions as when it side swept its tail. It's the second time I see this, but it still moves too fast.

It was the counter move it used on me before, half my HP was taken last time. If I receive it again, I will surely lose consciousness. But, its unavoidable.

I bang my tail at the body of the approaching giant centipede, and fly back due to the shock. Still it cannot be avoided as the centipedes body approaches. I try to reduce the power by turning my wings forward and guarding against it.

Although I was splendidly sent flying into the air the damage was minimized. I use the momentum and escape flying into the air. I return my wings which were used to guard, to the back and flap them increasing the distance.

Anyway, I escaped.

Its impossible to do anymore.

As I flew away, I sensed that my neck was being pulled so I looked back.

“GIJIIJIIJIIJIIJIGIJI, GIJlishi!”

Red light was gathering at the mouth of the giant centipede. Was it going to shoot again?

[Scorching Flame] is out. The person in my mouth would be burnt to death by the flame. Its the person who the last of the seven left their last moments for. Although I am seized by a feeling of helplessness by looking at the corpse, I cannot afford to immerse in this sentiment.

After checking the status of the giant centipede, it seemed that the damage hardly got through. However, its MP consumption is surprisingly large. The way it looks, it can only use [Heat Ray] three times a day. That’s why it did not use it to hunt the carriage and chased after it instead. However I can’t rely on this information. Because, I will have to avoid it while flying.

I fly up while keeping the giant centipede in sight. For me who was in the sky far away, the giant centipede released its [Heat Ray]. I turned my face downward at a stretch and nosedived.

Even though I had taken quite a distance from it, [Heat Ray] still passed just a little above me. The range is stupidly long.

[Lv of title skill [Evasion King] went up from 1 to 2]

A message floats in my head again.

Fortunately, the giant centipede did not follow. I could not fly for a long time, but since I descended in order to avoid [Heat Ray], I decided to get to the ground soon. I would have probably been killed if its third shot chased after me. It probably only took me

for a delinquent who stole its food and ran away.

[Lv of title skill [Spirit Relief] went up from 5 to 6] [The acquisition condition of the white magic system has reduced]

I looked behind once again. Then I rounded my body using [Roll] and moved towards the direction of the moon.

Chapter 112

Felis Huma

With the beastman still in my mouth, I use [Roll] and search for the ball rabbit. Although I ran quite a bit I still vaguely remember where I parted from the ball rabbit. The two cacti I crushed for the ball rabbit before going to bed should serve as a marker.

I have to find the ball rabbit as soon as possible. If I lose sight of it for too long, it could possibly become prey for another monster.

Besides, the beastman I helped earlier although did not receive a direct attack from the giant centipede, they did get injured after being dropped from the running carriage. The one who dropped before seemed to act like a cushion, so the injury was light in comparison, but the drop in HP was great. Originally, it seems they did not spend a very good life, as the body was brittle.

Also, they received abnormal conditions [Coma, Bloodshed] and the HP is decreasing.

[Nina Niewa]

Race: Felis Huma

State: Coma – Bloodshed

Lv: 7/60

HP: 8/25

MP: 22/22

Attack: 21

Defense: 18

Mana: 17

Speed: 25

Characteristic Skill:

[Presence Sense: Lv1] [Night Vision: Lv1] [Dynamic Vision: Lv2] [Gurisha Language: Lv3]

Resistant Skill:

[Hunger Resistance: Lv3] [Poison Resistance: Lv1] [Physical Resistance: Lv2]

Normal Skill:

[Bite: Lv1] [Scratch: Lv1] [Squeal: Lv2] [Bind: Lv1]

Title Skill:

[Beastman: Lv-] [Hunter: Lv2] [Acrobatics: Lv2] [Slave: Lv-]

This beastman seems to be called Nina. Race [Felis Huma]?

Even though it's a beastman, the race is different from the one who was beside that female swordsman in the cave.

If im not mistaken, the girl with the hammer was a [Canis Huma]?

They had the same beast ears, but I think that they had dog ears. On the other hand, Nina's was more like a cats.

.....[Slave], this is that right? Slavery. They wore tattered clothes and it's impossible to say that they lived a true life due to their position. But, this was still somewhat of a shock, getting to know like this.

All the other beastman packed in that carriage where probably also slaves. I wonder if the parents sold them due to economic distress?

I find a familiar lump and stop [Roll]. A mountain of cactus remains could be seen at a distance.

There is no doubt, this is where I parted with the ball rabbit. It was still there sleeping after I had woken up. Yet, there is a small hole in the place where the ball rabbit was supposed to be buried. Looks like it already woke up and crawled out.

I could not see any traces of the ball rabbit dragging their body, as it was erased by a sandstorm. Worried, I wasn't even able to move my foot at all.

While praying that it was nearby, I use [Presence Sense] and check the surroundings. From the wreckage of the cactus, there was sign of a small animal... Though I am glad

it stayed close by, what is he doing?

I hunt for the ball rabbit through the cactus wreckage. There was the figure of the ball rabbit with cactus spines scratching at its back. Really what is he doing?

When the ball rabbit notices a sound, it extends its ears vertically and looks back at me.

“pefu? pefuuu!”

The ball rabbit spat out the skin of the cactus and came straight at me. Then it attacks my feet and legs again with its ears. Maybe he was angry being left behind.

I move away from the cactus and spit out the beastman who was in my mouth along with the sand. I have a coughing fit trying to get all the sand out of my throat.

“pefu?”

After seeing Nina, the ball rabbit turns its gaze towards me. I then turn my eyes towards Nina and stick my tongue out making a lick motion. I then lightly poked the ball rabbit with my finger.

“pefu!”

This guy... does it eat humans?

I am fine with eating a panther and a camel, but I won't eat a human being who used to be the same kind as me. Although there is no real reason for it, please refrain from it ball rabbit. I won't give you a ride on top of my head anymore if you do so.

I convey the situation to the ball rabbit with a gesture. I point at the bleeding beastman and waved my hands left and right.

The ball rabbit should have learned the skill [Rest] after gaining the experience from the camel. With that, Ninas bleeding could be stopped. Other than bleeding there is no other danger to her life.

The ball rabbit gazes at Nina and then lifts the fragments of the cactus with his ears. It then starts drawing a picture on the sand as if it where chalk. After finishing drawing it throws the cactus skin far and hangs its ears to the ground as if nothing happened.

Ball rabbit... were you always able to do that?

Although the picture was bad, I immediately understood what the picture was. It is definitely a picture of meat.

I nod in understanding. Understood, understood, when I find meat again I will salt and cook it!

When the ball rabbit saw me, it moved happily to Ninas side and cried “pefu”. A small light jumps out of the ball rabbits head and enters Ninas body. From what I could see the wounds are closing and the pale skin begins regaining its life.

Checking the status, abnormal condition [Bloodshed] was lost and the HP was slowly recovering, although not completely. After breathing a breath of relief, [Coma] turned into [Coma (small)].

The relief I felt slowly changes into anxiousness.

...What should I do when Nina wakes up? The way I see it, there is no doubt that she will scream and try to run away. If she walks alone in this desert then she will surly die.

Should I send her to that city surrounded by that high wall before she wakes up? No, I won't have any time. It seems she will get up soon.

In the first place, is it even okay to take her there? Thinking about the direction, the carriage should have also left from that city. That fat guy who kicked all those slaves out to be food for the giant centipede should have also come from there.

Chapter 113

Conversation

“U, Uuh... Nyaa...”

The beatsman Nina groans in a low voice. She stiffens and turns her body on the sand.

She has not gotten up yet, but it was only a matter of time.

What do I want to do, what should I do? If I stay she will probably faint in fear. Should I hide and leave it to the ball rabbit?

Even if I can't decide I still have to make sure I take her someplace. When I think about it I can't keep hidden forever. She will surely become a monsters prey once she wakes up and I leave her here in the desert.

After all, I'll have to manage somehow. I have to appeal that there is no hostility with all my power. I'll try looking as foolish as possible. Somebody that looks like they can't do any harm, should be fine right? Well, I'll do it anyway. So what should I do? Should I have the ball rabbit dig a hole and bury my head until Nina wakes up?

“n, Aa, nyaa...”

Nina stifles in a low voice again. She lifts her arms and moves her bangs to the left and right with the back of her hands. Oh, looks like she is already getting up. Something, anything! Oh, how about [Human Transformation Technique]! Thanks to the evolution its now at Lv3. This should be of decent quality now.

I take a deep breath and calm myself. This is pretty tough. My body is forcibly compressed, and HP, attack power and my defense are greatly reduced. Adding to that, my MP consumption is now 1 per second?

Let's see, so now my status is...

[Irushia]

Race: Evil Plague Dragon

State: Normal

Lv: 22/75

HP: 260/260

MP: 199/199

...So I have 199 seconds?

199 seconds, thats three minutes and 19 seconds.

Isn't this really small? No I should be good. I'll have 19 seconds to spare if I had decided to make a cup of noodles.

In these 199 seconds I will appeal that I am harmless and listen to Ninas circumstances. I should be able to do it, no, I can do it.

I saw that Ninas eyes had opened. I only had a limited time use of [Human Transformation Technique].

An intense heat attacks my body. It feels like my body is melting and withering due to the heat. This is the third time I've felt this. The first time was a bitter experience, and I wanted to avoid it. But now that I don't feel so evil it should be better. Or so I thought, but its hot and it's still painful.

My body gradually got smaller and my total length which was 5 meters went down to just a little over 2 meters.

I open my eyes and see my arms. There, I see a robust arm with black scales. The sharp nails are also in good health. Its nice to be strong, but... right now I'm just like a demon humanoid. Maybe, I look pretty bad I guess. Its a shame that I can't see myself as its making me uneasy.

It will appear awkward if I am turned completely into a human and am not wearing any clothes. No, actually, I think that will be better than looking like my present demon self.

"pefuuu!?"

The ball rabbit squeals loudly, and his ears turn perpendicular as he quickly takes some distance from me.

Hey, stop that. With that kind of reaction I'll lose the confidence to win Ninas trust with this form.

Ha, as expected, isnt this more frightening than a dragon? It has the shape of a human, but the mouth is lined with fangs.

Well, even if I want to just shrink away right now. I only have three minutes in this form, and in those three minutes I have to win the trust of Nina.

As I looked towards Nina, she closed her eyes and laid back on the sand. Oh, why did close your eyes? Perhaps you lost consciousness again? Well, it was a pretty tiresome situation, so if the body is still tried then it can't be helped.

But, if you do that I'll be in trouble!

After changing, my MP is steadily decreasing and ill return to my original form if this keeps up. If my MP is exhausted then I will not be able to talk. This may be bad for her, but let's get you up.

I take care not to use my nails as I brace her shoulder and hold her up as I shake her body slowly.

Well, now, how's my voice?

" Gu~a, a", a" a... A, i", iii~i..... vu! Vu! U!

Good.

It seems my vocal cords are now closer to that of humans. If this is the case, then a conversation could be established.

But what should I say? I dont have anything to talk about. Should I say "I am not a bad dragon?" like in a certain RPG?

"Oh, oh, gee, o, oh, ve. E, oki, We, U, Le"

It was a little hard at first. But I gradually got the hang of it.

“Uuh, well...”

Nina sharply looks my way. When she saw me her face was dyed blue.

“Oh, ahh...”

Because of the fear, it seems her voice had trouble getting out. Nina opens her cat eyes wide open, and moves her mouth opened and closed a few times. Then, after all, this form seems no good, would the dragon be better? No, I’ll go on, besides I can still reverse it.

“Wait a while... Nina, Nina, is not tasty!”

As I thought, its strange since I’m still a dragon.

Nina feebly tries to escape from my arms. I gently let go of her and take a step back.

Well, how many seconds are left.

[Irushia]

Race: Evil Plague Dragon

State: Humanized Lv:3

Lv: 22/75

HP: 130/260

MP: 97/199

Ive already lost half!

After 97 seconds... one minute and thirty seven seconds.

Ive already given up on understanding her circumstances, for now lets gain her trust. Oh, thats right, what if I prepared food?

There is no doubt that she’s hungry seeing that thin body. Also, it is doubtful you received precious water in this desert while in that carriage, so you must be thirsty. I should have prepared the cactus beforehand, I’m such a fool! What do I do? The

remains of the cactus are scattered from the time I made food for the ball rabbit.

The ball rabbit is soft and its meat should be tasty, it wouldn't be bad to cook him. It looks delicious.

Wait, now's not the time to be thinking of that!

Anyway, I have to appeal that there's no hostility. Procuring food can be done even after [Human Transformation Technique] has run out.

Chapter 114

Beastman Nina

So what should I do? I have to somehow convey that im not hostile in less than a minute. If I turn back into a dragon now then I would have transformed into a human for nothing.

Oh, maybe, should I dance? Maybe doing a dance will appeal to her. But, if I dance for a whole minute it won't feel right. She'll probably think it was some kind of curse or something.

"Va..."

"hinya!"

Listening to my hoarse voice, Nina shudders and her body trembles.

Oh, its no use, even my voice is no good.

I lightly poke my throat. Please work my vocal cords, ill depend on you, im counting on you.

But, I really don't have much time. Three minutes, is really short. But, if I had three more minutes I could do something about it. If this keeps up I will turn back into a dragon without having accomplished anything. It's painful being deprived of your voice as appearance doesn't really make much of a difference at this point.

Anyway, just think of what I want to say for now.

Even if I say I came to help, I won't be able to trust it if I look like this. Seeing my body, I feel like I'm some sort of devil. In normal circumstances I should not be the type to help people. I look more like someone who would laugh while eating humans.

I need to say something to make up for this appearance... Something like, actually, im a human being like you? No, it sounds suspicious. I will definitely run away if a monster approaches while saying such a thing.

It needs to be brief and it has to convince her right now... that is unreasonable.

While I'm thinking my MP is slowly decreasing. Anyway, I just have to say what I honestly mean to convey without hesitation. There is no longer any time to think.

"Vu~o, me, monster, Ua, a, turn, human, original"

Okay, good.

I tried to put it together forcibly, but it instead might have been taken as a misunderstanding from the flow of it. But, I did not tell a lie. When I think about it, in this world there might not even be a word such as human being. It's a small worry, yeah.

"....."

Nina looked at me with fearful eyes and blinked twice.

"Uh, lets see, in the past... was there a human being?" (Nina)

"its so"

Its good, this is good. I'll be able to overcome this if it's like this.

"I! Not dangerous. Safe place. I take you to place. Where live..."



I feel that my body is starting to grow a little. At the same time, a fierce sense of fatigue attacks my body.

Oh, are the three minutes up already? At least let me finish! Status, status check!

[Irushia]

Race: Evil Plague Dragon

State: Normal

Lv: 22/75

HP: 130/260

MP: 4/199

Wow, it already reached the time limit. Just a bit more, at least let me have ten more seconds! At least tell me where it is I should take you!

To try to keep my human figure even for a little bit longer, I imagen squeezing out magical power from my body. [Auto MP Recovery], if I had that, then maybe I could keep my human form longer...

[Normal Skill [Human Transformation Technique] Lv increased from 3 to 4]

That's not what I wanted! Even if the skill Lv goes up now it doesn't matter!

But I'm a little happy!

With skill Lv 4, I would actually feel more like a human soon wont I?

But, even if the skill Lv goes up, my problem hasn't been solved. My body is still expanding. Also, since my MP is almost drained, my body feels heavy. My consciousness is in danger, my head is a little dizzy.

My skin started to get harder and harder, and my fangs and nails started to grow. I'll be back to my original form in no time.

"Hinyaa!?"

Nina looks up at me who turned into a dragon and opens her eyes wide while edging back.

Seems that she was unable to remain standing due to fatigue, so she sat down in place.

Even if I didn't scare you that far, will I still be able to recover?

Everything I said was as a demon, before I changed back. Although, I never did mention I was a dragon.

In order to appeal my non-hostility, I lay my belly on the ground and lower my head bowing down.

Fortunately, after my actions, the ball rabbit who was watching our exchange from a distance approached me in a joyful manner. It climbed on top of my head, fixed its position and let out a small "pefuu"...as if relieved. It seems that the wariness it had of me a while ago due to my form, has worn off after having watched me.

But, the humanization has now run out?

Since it's already like this, I have to somehow persuade her with hand gestures or some kind of gesture. This desert is too dangerous for Nina to walk alone, she won't even be able to beat the leopard.

"Guar, GuA..."

I call out to Nina, but there is no response. I thought it was strange so I approached and stretched my neck.

...This girl, did she lose consciousness due to fear? Was it really that shocking that I suddenly became a dragon?...

Because, my MP became empty I am also in danger of losing consciousness. An intense sleepiness and feeling of exhaustion attacks my body. My body is strangely heavy. The next time I use [Human Transformation Technique] I should be more careful, even if I feel I am able to hold out.

I fell asleep slowly while feeling the ball rabbit lying on top of my head.

Chapter 115

Tale of a Certain Brave Man (side story)

The desert land, Hallenier.

There are many monsters and few resources, this is originally an inconvenient place to live.

But with the help of excellent magicians, numerous guardian amulets and support from other places, it was finally established.

Because of various reasons, this country is protected, it is believed that this is a sacred place and the brave are born here.

I was born as a brave man here 18 years ago. When I was born I was brought here to a church, where I grew up. I do not know my parents name, and the name I have now was given to me by a priest. But, I do not mind. It does not matter.

Because the priest's tongue slipped, I came to know that I was the eldest born of a poor family. When I learned of it, I thought it was good that I was born as a brave man.

The difference between the rich and the poor here is great.

This is because most of the priests monopolize supplies from other places. Also, because it is surrounded by the desert where dangerous monsters emerge, it is impossible to find another place to work. I'm absolutely sorry for the poor families in such a place. It's just a waste being born.

As for me, I can safely walk alone in the desert with God's protection.

Just a while ago I met with a stupid slave trader who was lamenting over the fact that he had to cross the desert to deliver his products only to be attacked by demons.

It seems that he certainly had a good horse, but, something to that extent will not be able to shake off the desert monsters. There are routes with few monsters, but in order to pass there you have to go through the country which has abolished beast slaves.

You cannot pass such a place with a slave.

I had traveled around the world on the day I turned 14 according to tradition. Although I have seen some terrible countries, it is not easy to corrupt Hallenier if you have only corrupted the upper echelon. Still it is my tradition that I will visit Hallenier if I'm nearby.

"Hero! The rumored hero has returned!"

"Look at that brave figure!"

Just by walking, I could feel the eyes of envy from the surroundings. I feel good when I think of the poor and weak around me, while laughing in my mind. Although the reason I'm staying here is for a different purpose.

I smile, and wave my hand to react to the beggars. I go ahead through the town disregarding the noisy monkeys.

After all it is good here. In other places, my name isn't that wide spread.

"Umm, excuse me, I, I want to have a talk with hero-sama...!"

Because there was a girl who came running in from the side to stand in front of me, I stopped my feet. A woman who seems to be her mother comes out later half laughing, saying "I'm sorry, this girl..." while pulling the girls hand, but the girl resists it.

I unintentionally laugh while looking at the situation.

I touch the mothers hand and have her separate from the girl. I then kicked the stomach of the girl, who now showed shuffled facial expressions.

The surrounding goes silent and confusion appears in everyone's eyes.

I unintentionally got carried away. I dislike having my way blocked by a stupid brat.

If this matter spreads, my reputation may get hurt, but it will be alright. Putting me in a bad mood, who is the symbol of this country, can be said to be the same as committing treason towards the church. This won't spread through the public.

If you are not on the churches side, you are a criminal. In Hallenier, the maintenance

of peace and security is under the jurisdiction of the church. Because there is something that must be done here, I've been staying in the camp Haleena for quite some time.

Normally civilians are not allowed to enter this camp. Even officials need to go through nominal procedures. One can hardly get pass the gate guards, but only I can get in here freely with a face pass.

I walk the corridor of the camp while watching the guards hurriedly lower their heads, I then stop in front of a certain jail cell.

"Long time no see knight chief Adofu. No, should I say former knight chief?"

I look at the person sitting in the depths of the cell with a smile on his face. A man with a big solid body stares at me from the intersection of the lattice.

"This is pretty serious. It is suspected that the fiancée and the younger brother were killed"

Adofu was stripped of his name and rank as knight chief, with the crime of homicide and was imprisoned. Recently the problems raised by the monopoly over the support supplies by the church, took up most of their time. So fortunately he was sent to prison without proper investigation. That priest is such a guy.

".....Oh, did you only come here to laugh at me?"

Adofu said in a low voice.

I am usually a man who has more words to say, but I do not have that kind of margin right now. Anyone would get angry if there was infidelity between their fiancée and younger brother. This would make them angry enough to take up their sword and murder their relative and fiancée.

"I hate it, even I wouldn't do such a thing. In the old days I used to do various things, but I was immature, self-centered and arrogant. I have reflected on it, and to this day I am sorry that I could not apologize. But you are a knight..."

When I said such things Adofu shows a painful distressed face. It is a good expression.

"I believe that Adofu's accusation is false. Because my eyes can distinguish the right

from the wrong in a person.”

To be precise, I can only roughly judge to a degree. But it is a custom “to be able to see through the right and wrong of the person”. In that way it could become rather convenient.

“...stop with your kindness.” (Adofu)

“I can do without humbling myself to such a degree. Certainly my position may have been lost, but I...” (Adofu)

I feel that my eyebrows unintentionally wrinkle my forehead. I put a hand over my eyes and laugh.

“It seems that it has been rough. But, I understand. I guess lets decide what to do next. With such a case, I negotiated with the priest, so for would you like to be released?”

“Such a thing cannot be done! First of all, I was set up by that fellow!” (Adofu)

“I understand your suspicions, but the priest will not do such a thing. Also, the priest actually said that if I were to accompany you, you will be free to do as you like for one day.”

“Is that true? However, what can be done in a single day...” (Adofu)

“We will earn achievements and restore your trust. Then I will extend the period and search for the real culprit.”

“Is that possible to do? But to earn achievements so conveniently...” (Adofu)

I touch my mouth and hide my laughter. As usual, he is a simple man. That aspect has not changed since four years ago.

“Actually, it seems that a merchant’s carriage was attacked by a darkness dragon. There’s a rumor that it is actually an evil plague dragon. If that is true, and it’s left alone, it may come to spread disaster to Hallenier. I heard that the church is now organizing an investigation team. I also do not know if the rumor is true or not. Adofu’s place will change greatly if you were to defeat the dragon in the vicinity of Haleena. If

that were to happen, you should be able to deal with the matter of re-investigating the incident and appeal your case towards the guards.”

Adofu stands up, swallows and spits.

I turn my back on the cell.

“Since only I am allowed to go through here. I will go and make a report.”

“Hey, Irushia!”

Adofu calls my name.

“For my doubt... I am sorry. I thank you for this matter, truly.”

“No, it’s nothing, as I must do the right thing as I am a brave man.”

Now that I’m done here, I turn around and leave the prison. I could not keep facing Adofu, as I could not help but leak out a laugh.

Four years ago, I had a practice duel with Adofu at the end of the rainy season. There in front of the masses, I was beaten and put to shame. There is not a single day where I forget that humiliation that was sung preaches from above. It is the biggest blemish of my life.

Just letting him be executed like this is boring.

I will not be satisfied until I had stolen everything from this man. I will make sure you are properly humiliated, I’ll let Adofu die in regret and resentment. Because you defied me, it must be done.

Chapter 116

Huge Cactus

When I woke up from having my MP emptied, the surroundings were already dark. The ball rabbit seemed to have protected me and Nina while we were asleep yesterday. But, it did not dive into the ground. I searched the surroundings, stretching my ears so that I will be able hear even a pin drop.

The ball rabbit who saw me get up was relieved and leaked out a small breath with a “Pu-he”, it then dug a hole in the ground and went in. Somehow it sounded like a proud elated voice, but I was concerned as there was no longer any power in the voice.

Looks like it was desperately looking out for me and Nina while we slept. Ordinarily, I’m confident that I’ll get up as soon as a dangerous monster came. But since my MP was empty I slept deep and soundly.

I felt ashamed, since a little while ago I thought of serving up the ball rabbit as food. Let’s fetch something delicious this time. Because of my [Dragon Scales], I do not know how long we can stay together...

Since I slept enough, my eyes were clear. Let’s get up and do what we can.

When I sat down, I heard Ninas painful groaning voice. She did not seem to get up.

After observing for a while, I thought that maybe it was the lack of water, so I rummage through the cactus wreckage. Most of them were eaten or dried up being exposed to the sunlight. But miraculously, there were some debris which was not exposed to the sunlight. In those places the watery cactus had remained.

I bring the cactus peel to the vicinity of Ninas face, squeeze it, and have the water drip into her mouth. Since it will be painful if a lot pours out at once, I pour it little by little. Ninas groan subsided, but it is doubtful whether she was able to drink it properly.

I thought that it may be difficult to lie on the sand, so I gathered the skin of the cactus and laid it under Nina. It will be a little sticky but it will be better than laying on sand... Maybe.

The morning came and the ball rabbit eventually crawled out of the ground. It shakes its head to get rid of the sand.

Even if the ball rabbit got up, Nina didn't. She is breathing, but her physical condition may not be so well. Because of malnutrition and sunlight, the physical decrease in strength will be intense. Even before this, she did not eat very well, and this dry air also cannot be good for her.

Right now Nina needs nourishment and water. Around here there are only the remnants of what the ball rabbit and I have eaten. The cactus skin is also almost dry, and there is nothing left around with enough water. If I had known this would be the case, I would have left a bit more.

First of all, let's try looking for something to eat before Nina gets up. Nina will be hungry and I feel bad that I don't have anything to feed her. This will be the best for me to gain trust. I also started having feelings of attachment towards that cactus eating ball rabbit. Is it because that fellow is particularly easy to get along with?

Shall I have the ball rabbit watch Nina while I search?

The ball rabbit as it is now can handle F and about E rank monsters. However it would be impossible if the opponent was of rank D or higher. If it's something like that, I'll turn my attention on returning as soon as possible and dealing with the approaching monster.

Then, it will be impossible to surrender and leave... Looking around, it is vacant so I could see far, but there is also a limit to my eyesight.

For now I'll leave the sleeping Nina to the ball rabbit, and I run in the desert.

Although I am a little worried leaving Nina with the ball rabbit... well even if it's a small insect monster, it should be able to drive it away. But as long as I'm within range to notice a bigger monsters approach, I'll be able to do something about it.

I wish there was something convenient to eat nearby. I wonder if a camel's hump is enough? It should contain fat and water.

Should I look for some water first? At this rate Nina will die from the lack of water. Although I could prolong her life at the ball rabbits rest, it wouldn't be a very good thing.

Also, seawater is out of the question due to the large amounts of salt. However, if I recall there is a way to make seawater drinkable. It's in the corner of my mind, a memory of my past life. First I boil the seawater, and collect the steam in a separate container as it cools. It is a form of distillation that works by extracting the ingredients using the difference in boiling points.

But that's not very realistic right now.

I could boil the water just fine, but cooling it would be a problem. I could try burying it and then covering it with fur, but drinking from such a hole would be bad for humans I believe. I don't think that the countries and towns of this world are very hygienic as compared to the Japanese. But unlike me and other monsters, the humans don't have that many antibodies. I can't let her drink water from a beast's fur.

Well, anyway, it's either a camel or a cactus.

They both can supply both food and water. But after running for a while I could not find a camel, and the cactus was also not showing up.

She may also be weak because she was rolling around in my mouth while we were trying to escape from the giant centipede. Even if I were to move her carefully on my back there will still be some shaking, and there is also the possibility of her dropping.

I thought it would be better to take her with me so that I don't go too far after she recovers a bit. That way I don't have to take what I gather back, or else I would have to leave it there and leaving it makes me uneasy.

Would it be better to take her with my wings? It will be a little difficult fighting monsters in that state, but I feel I could manage somehow if it was just cactus. But forcibly using my wings would consume a lot of strength. Also, moving about with my wings would expose my dragon scales...

I just feel uneasy leaving it to the ball rabbit. I am anxious taking my eyes off of that fellow. He will be able to take care of insects, he's quick and good at concealing. But that guy, don't eat Nina, okay?

I run while looking to my back frequently. I could see that the ball rabbit is shrinking in the distance. It's good that I could still see them in the distance due to it being free of grass and trees, but wouldn't it be useless if I can't make it in time?

After looking towards the distance, it seems this area is the limit. The ball rabbit looked at me, he was using his ears to fling the sand towards my direction. I glanced back a few times irritated for some reason. Certainly if I think of Nina's condition I should find food and water quickly. I guess there's no helping it that I get this nagging feeling thinking about it.

Is it to utterly destroy or dash to pieces? Well either way keep protecting Nina, im begging you ball rabbit.

I use [Roll] and leave behind the ball rabbit and Nina in the distance. I'm concerned, but for now I should first find food and water. Its either cactus or camel.

Come on, cactus or camel. A cactus or camel. As long as the centipede doesn't come, seriously, I don't feel like going face to face with it anytime soon.

While rolling for a while, I saw a green lump. This desert plant should be a cactus. It's here, the cactus came. I'm glad I found it early. I have to quickly take it and head back.

While thinking of heading back quickly, I realize that it's not a large amount. Thinking about Nina and the ball rabbits needs... this much is not enough for the ball rabbit. Well, the ball rabbit will be fine. I'm eating as much as I usually do so there should be some room in me as well.

Considering he's the [Dessert Idol], I should go on a diet. Even if I eat and eat my body shape will not change.

I keep rolling towards the green lump. At first I thought that my perspective was going crazy. Because I'm rolling my senses dull a bit, so I thought that it was just an effect of it. But, after a bit I started to realize that since there was nothing to compare its size too, my perspective may have been a bit off.

After approaching to a certain extent, I found out that the cactus was actually about 4 meters. There was a huge cactus lying on the floor like a caterpillar. It was probably a little smaller than me. Even though I was a bit too far off to see properly, my guess should still be within 2 meters at most, and this is accounting for inflation.

Even if I can't bring back the whole thing while using [Roll], just a small part should be good. It would be better to bring both Nina and the ball rabbit here as there is quite the amount. There shouldn't be many like it.

I started to slow down as I got closer, the cactus mass then shock slowly and unnaturally, then it got up.

Chapter 117

Wild Thorn Child

The cactus moves and a head extends from it.

I suddenly braked and canceled my [Roll]. This guy is not just a cactus.

It is a mass of green with a fattened body and full of needles. It was a cactus but it had the shape of a camel.

If trying to decide which one it was, then it was both, the cactus camel has arrived. Besides, it's not just a camel. Its full length is about 4 meters.

There are small holes where its eyes should be, but the mouth is big. Whenever the cactus camel opened its mouth, a sticky green thread of liquid would come out. Hmm, I feel uncomfortable...

Well first of all, I want to check this guys stats.

[Cactus Turfilios]: C-rank monster] [Living for 500 years [Cactus Tur Pupa] gains powerful magical power and establishes a self before long.] [Turfilios means Wild Thorn Child] [To support its own weight, it has four legs, and because it endlessly absorbs water there are several lumps on its back. Its figure resembles that of a camel.] [Its body surface has been strengthened by magical power, and its needles are very hard.] [It pretends to be a normal plant but it then eats approaching monsters after weakening them with its magic.]

Is that the evolution system of the cactus?

C rank... even with such a look is it really equivalent to the Little Rock Dragon?

It seems this may not be a very good opponent to take on.

Race: Cactus Turfilios

State: Normal

Lv: 46/50

HP: 308/308

MP: 185/185

Attack: 120

Defense: 198

Mana: 210

Speed: 56

Rank: C-

Characteristic Skill:

[Earth Attribute: Lv-] [Photosynthesis: Lv-] [Water Storage: Lv6] [Needle Armor: Lv5]
[Automatic HP Recovery: Lv3] [Automatic MP Recovery: Lv3]

Resistant Skill:

[Drought Tolerance: Lv4] [Thermal resistance: Lv5] [Physical Resistance: Lv3] [Magic Resistance: Lv4]

Normal Skill:

[Mirage: Lv4] [Digestive Juice: Lv3] [Clay: Lv5] [Weak: Lv3] [Iron Maiden: Lv6] [Bite: Lv2] [Thousand Needles: Lv2] [Sand Breath: Lv1] [Sandstorm: Lv3]

Title Skill:

[Son of Plant God: Lv-] [Longevity: Lv2]

Its Lv is high!?

It's probably good for earning experience, but it's not a good opponent if I want to eat it. First of all, its HP, MP and Mana are better than mine.

I want to shy away, but if I miss this chance I don't know when something as rich in water as this will come. It will be safe to leave the ball rabbit and Nina alone for now.

Well, I guess I should be able to manage. Its attack power is low and its movement seems dull.

Attack power and speed are important in battle. It's what I've learned through my experience so far. Even if the defense is high, if your attack can't hit it doesn't count. They will wear out and magic could only provide a bit of support against an experienced fighter.

Alright then, after a long time, I will have you raise my Lv.

I glance at the needle camel from a distance. The needle camel stands up on its four legs, and turns its socket eyes towards me.

The other side also stiffens and doesn't move an inch. It seems it wants to see how I move. I guess it's no fool, and instead of giving up it wants to face me here.

I'd like to take care of it from a long distance, but I would ruin the precious water if I use [Scorching Breath]. If it's like this, then there is only one thing I could try. But I have not used it in a while.

I gather magic power on both of my wings and strike forward with a flap. It's the skill [Kamaitachi] which cuts enemies with wind blades. The wind blades bounce off the surface of the needle camel.

It went unscathed this time, but if I were to hit it again on the same spot it could scratch it, a third could break its needles and the fourth will scrape off its body.

[Normal Skill [Kamaitachi] Lv increased from 1 to 2]

Oh, look skill Lv went up.

A sharper wind blade storm pours down onto the needle camel. The needle camel crouches down and protects its head. Even seen this I still won't stop my wings. Instead I strengthen the momentum, sharpen the aim, and I steadily hit the needle camels body.

Go! Keep battering him over and over. I will pour in all of the magic I got.

Is this not working?

I used this on the Little Rock Dragon before, but was I underestimating my opponent? Even though the [Kamaitachi] got stronger. The needle camel didn't move but I also didn't let it get close to me by running around. I will somehow win if I can just keep on

hitting him with [Kamaitachi].

I stopped after using about half my MP and did not move an inch. I look at the needle camel after I stopped using [Kamaitachi], should I check its status?

[Cannot find target]

Eh?

I remember the last time I saw this message. It was that time when I was chasing the panther. At that time I chased after a hallucination and collided with a rock. It must have been its normal skill [Mirage].

That needle camel also had [Mirage]

The figure of the needle camel disappears only to leave fragments which I happened to scrape off with [Kamaitachi] left on the sand.

Apparently, while I was bombarding it with my wind blades, it snuck out of the wind hell using [Mirage]. From the number of fragments scattered about, I couldn't help but feel that it was a waste not being able to use what was lost.

Looking about, I noticed that there is a high possibility that the needle camel is hiding in wait. Where would it come from? No, I don't have the time to think, I should start moving as it could come from anywhere.

I kick the ground and fly into the sky. Just then, the back of my knee was pierced by a big needle.

I failed to avoid it as my judgment was delayed. Is it going to shoot another needle? Apparently the needle camel showed me a hallucination at some point in time, and used that time to go around to my back.

I manage to stay in the air while still in pain.

Ah, my leg hurts. It's pretty powerful even with such a status. Although there isn't much damage, it's not an amount I can just ignore.

Although it may have been a thin part of my scales, it wanted to penetrate my body. Do you have and special characteristics like that of the slime?

Why can't this be easy?

Even if you try it, I won't be fooled by [Mirage] again. That hallucination is difficult to deal with but there are plenty of faults.

The trick to it is awkward but quite difficult. But, I should be able to notice immediately if I concentrate.

It's time to push forward and make it food.

Chapter 118

Mirage

I shoot [Kamaitachi] with my wing while floating in the air. The air blades are definitely scraping the needle camels surface.

From the scooped out body, a viscous liquid like that of a cactus drips and a sweet smell drifts. Even if I'm fighting, my mouth was still salivating.

The needle camel glares at me with its empty sockets while still in its defending posture. The needle camel seems to be in a difficult position. But, there is no reason to get closer. Its HP will still decrease even from afar.

Looking at the exhausted needle camel, it dissolves its defensive posture and stands up. The surrounding sand starts to roll up around the needle camel so as to fit it.

Is this the [Sandstorm] skill? Well if it is its not that intense. I can somehow still find my way if it's like this. It seems that it used [Mirage] just when the visibility was getting worse...

Should I continuously use [Status Check]? I know it will use up my MP, but. I know its a little cheap to do so, but it won't be able to deceive my [Status Check]. That way I can judge whether its genuine or not.

Ah, blindly shooting off [Kamaitachi] is a pretty big burden on the wings. Needless to say, they have both been overworked. I'd better get down soon.

I use [Status Check] to check whether the needle camel is real as I drop my altitude. At that moment, a strange sound came from below. I have a bad feeling, and quickly fall down while twisting.

A pointed sand pillar extends right past me. Immediately after, the pillars of sand broke down and collapsed, making the sandstorm darker.

Because I had forcibly changed my trajectory, my posture collapsed as I fell. I forcibly adjust the direction of my body with [Roll] and beat my tail on the ground, to kill the

impact of the land. I kick the ground as it is, and fly backwards to take a distance from the needle camel.

Oh, is that it? Does it manipulate the sand and solidify it?

I guess this is the [Clay] skill. Certainly the Clay Bear had the same skill. Even if its the same, the needle camels is far bigger.

.....That guy, the sand column made using [Clay] was hidden with [Mirage], and it was done with the help of [Sandstorm]. [Sandstorm] not only reduced visibility it also obstructed my auditory sense. I did not notice the sound of the sand pillar approaching.

High magical power is dangerous after all. Disregarding myself, I really haven't confronted the magic type. Thinking back, it seems that there were only muscle brained types in the forest, excluding the black lizard...

I don't want to get to close to the needle camel, I will just take my time scraping away at it from a distance.

I don't want to hit it myself since its skin is covered in needles. The momentum will weaken and it won't give much damage. As long as its HP is steadily decreasing, I can continue using [Kamataichi] as is.

Trying to flap my wings to fly, I hear something cutting the wind flying towards me. I guard with my wings and three needles pierced it, sticking to it.

It probably shot while hiding it with [Mirage]. I wont be able to see something so thin. Is it getting desperate and decided to hunt instead?

I have to avoid this long distance attack, but the sandstorm is making it difficult to pick up the sound. I can only rely on sight... ohh!

I twisted my body to avoid the needle that flew towards my neck. The other needle moved and I was stuck on my chest.

Woah! Wait!

I just barely decided that I was going to once again believe in my vision! To see it, I will avoid it using the sky's reflection.

But what if I close my eyes as soon as this happens. I might be misled. If I can't see it, it will be dangerous if it ends up in a different place.

Should I only count on the sound then?

But that alone won't help, I won't be able to aim like that. I'll be able to tell where the needles are flying, but will I be able to move my body right with my eyes closed?

I avoid the needles, and within the gaps, fire off [Kamaitachi]. It's useless. My attack frequency will keep on decreasing. It also has [Automatic HP Recovery], so the fight will be prolonged if this keeps up.

Will this be decided at once with a prepared needle in close combat? The opponent's attack power is low but I won't be able to do anything if it comes to a fistfight. Its disadvantageous if I think about being struck while it's hiding in an illusion.

I keep my distance from the main body while defending from the flying needles with [Kamaitachi] and my wings. Even if my vision is deceived, it is easy to search for the main body because it is skipping over the blown away needles.

In the increasingly violent sandstorm, I can see the figure of the needle camel. I release [Kamaitachi] all the while and attack it while removing the sand in the vicinity. I kick the ground and spread my wings, flying low towards the opponent while following the wind blades.

My body collides with the needle camel from the front. At that moment, the shape of the needle camel sways. I slip through the needle camel as is without minding the distortion and fly straight. As I thought, what I saw was just the mirage of the needle camel.

You may be able to mislead the direction but you cannot deceive the depth. It seems such wisdom is also in the needle camel, but i'm a former human being. I can check if it is an illusion with [Status Check]. I won't lose in wisdom with a beast. No, its a plant. Which do you prefer?

A sand tower penetrates just behind me. It seems that it planned to lure me in and stab me with [Clay] when I stopped in front of the needle camel illusion.

I will not get tricked the same way again!

I will give you a [Kamaitachi].

The blade of wind scattered the sandstorm, the noise got thinner, the location of the needle camel that was hidden came into view using [Presence Sense].

Lets check its status.

You can't hide if I know where you are. Definitely its main body.

I release [Kamaitachi] towards the needle camels head while I jump. The needles that protected the right of its head splashes around.

I stretch out my arms into the air, put my hands on the right of its head, and dig my claws into the needle camels head. I grasp it tight and twist its head around while doing a cartwheel.

[Normal Skill [Neck Breaker] Lv changed from 2 to 3]

The head of the needle camel flew away and the liquid inside spew up. While landing and looking back, the huge body of the needle camel collapses with a huge thud.

[504 experience points obtained] [Title Skill [Walking Egg] activated, gained 504 more points]

The value was pretty high.

As expected, high Lv enemies are worth aiming for. Although, I don't want to meet with the Huge Centipede again.

[[Evil Plague Dragon] 's IV has risen from 22 to 29]

It's a nice feeling.

Well, how do I collect the contents of the needle camel?

Chapter 119

Cacti Dismantling

My Lv has gone up, I should confirm my status for the time being.

[Irushia]

Race: Evil Plague Dragon

State: Normal

Lv: 29/75

HP: 182/293

MP: 41/213

Attack: 266

Defense: 191

Mana: 182

Speed: 172

Rank: B-

Characteristic Skill:

[Dragon Scale: Lv5] [God's Voice: Lv4] [Gurisha Language: Lv3] [Flight: Lv5] [Dragon Scale Powder: Lv4] [Dark Attribute: Lv-] [Evil Dragon: Lv-] [Automatic HP Recovery: Lv3] [Presence Sense: Lv2]

Resistant Skill:

[Physical Resistance: Lv4] [Fall Resistance: Lv5] [Hunger Resistance: Lv4] [Poison Resistance: Lv5] [Loneliness Resistance: Lv6] [Magic Resistance: Lv3] [Dark Attribute Resistance: Lv3] [Fire Attribute Resistance: Lv2] [Fear Resistance: Lv2] [Oxygen Deficiency Resistance: Lv3] [Paralysis Resistance: Lv2]

Normal Skill:

[Roll: Lv6] [Status Check: Lv6] [Scorching Breath: Lv5] [Whistle: Lv1] [Dragon Punch: Lv3] [Plague Breath: Lv3] [Poison Fang: Lv3] [Paralysis Claw: Lv4] [Dragon Tail: Lv1] [Roar: Lv2] [Star Fall: Lv2] [Nutcracker: Lv3] [Human Transformation Technique: Lv4] [Kamaitachi: Lv2] [Neck Breaker: Lv3]

Title Skill:

[Son of the Dragon King: Lv-] [Walking Egg: Lv-] [Klutz: Lv4] [Fool: Lv1] [Infighter: Lv4] [Pest Killer: Lv3] [Liar: Lv2] [Evasion King: Lv2] [Spirit Relief: Lv6] [Tiny Hero: Lv5] [Path of Evil: Lv6] [Disaster: Lv5] [Chicken Runner: Lv2] [Chef: Lv4] [Mean King: Lv4] [Guts: Lv2] [Big Eater(Giant Killing): Lv1] [Ceramic Craftsman: Lv4] [Boss of the Crowd: Lv1] [Laplace's Interference Authority: Lv1]

Hmph Hmph, it rose quite nicely.

Although it feels like it's getting harder to raise it compared to before.

Will the next evolution come after 46 more?

There should be a few more evolution's to chose from right?

Even though I didn't feel quite right choosing an evil plague dragon...

Well, it can't be helped now.

I have to try to raise my skill Lv's of[Spirit Relief] and [Tiny Hero]. Because of [Spirit Relief] the acquisition condition for restoration magic was relaxed. This will let the ball rabbit teach me [Rest].

My HP is fine, but my MP consumption was pretty large.

It must have been because I was constantly firing off [Kamaitachi].

I didn't mind it since it was a fight to the death, but I should pay a little more attention next time. I don't want to run empty if it comes to an emergency.

It wasn't a challenging opponent, but it may have been frightening if I were to get a direct hit from [Clay].

Well, what am I supposed to reflect on here?

If you collect the possessions of the cactus, it will be all better.

I take care not to get pricked as I pull out the needles from the body of the needle cactus.

After roughly pulling them out, I separate the leg and the larger bump parts. When disassembling the body it's best to be careful, as it will evaporate if it's exposed to the sunlight. After I return home with this, I will also want bring Nina and the ball rabbit back.

Ah, even though I caught such a big prey, it's almost dry already. If I bring Nina and the ball rabbit, I will keep the center of the giant cactus for myself.

It seems a little hard, but I'll be able to use the skin as a bed as I did for Nina before if I peel off the layer of needles.

It's better than sleeping on sand.

There's a little problem after the dismantling was done. I have no means to carry it.

If I roll it with my arms I might as well have just left it here as it will spill everywhere. It will take a while to walk with it since I went out even farther than I originally planned.

I can't be helped I guess.

I'll stuff it in my mouth and roll.

It may be a bit frustrating , but I can't have my belly on my back. Its ridiculous but I have to make sure it keeps its moisture.

With a mouth stuffed with cactus, I use [Roll] to move back to the place I left the ball rabbit.

This is quite painful.

It's hard to breath, and the skin of the cactus is piercing my skin inside my throat, ah, I'll vomit at this rate.

Oh, I accidentally swallowed a little bit.

It went up my nose! I'll die, I will die! Ah Stop!

After struggling for a bit, I managed to find my way back to the trail I left with rolling.

I almost died twice today.

I found Nina immediately. I want to lay down the cactus remains in the little hole the ball rabbit made. But, I don't see the ball rabbit around.

Since my mouth is still blocked from before and my voice won't come out, I lightly stamp the ground to call out.

There was a little stirring nearby as the sand moved, and the ball rabbit appeared from inside. A tail like that of a shrimp made of sand was peeping out of the ball rabbit's mouth.

Staring still, the tail retracts back into its mouth. The ball rabbit moves its cheeks that looks like a chestnut and chews, and swallows with a gulp. Then a "fu-he" comes out as if nothing happened.

Looking like it could be bodily fluids, the mouth was slightly stained with a splash of green.

The ball rabbit is quite strong despite how it looks.

Its Lv even went up by one.

I intended to escort you back, but I guess it was diving around and hunting for food.....

...Oh, yeah.

I guess the area is safe as a result, so I won't mind it.

"pefu pefu!"

The ball rabbit rushes happily to my feet.

It was like a daughter who welcomes back their father after a long time away in a single parent household.

...I'll say this first, I wonder what life was like in my previous one.

After, putting effort into the back my my teeth, I face downward and spit out what was in my mouth onto the ground.

Out came a mountain of cactus painted in my saliva.

The ears of the ball rabbit stood up for a moment before they hanged back down, as if it just suffered an intense shock.

After that, I put some effort into my ear and point towards my back. I have a wound there from when I was stabbed previously.

It was hard I tell you! Hard!

But now there is a mountain of cactus in a place far from here!

But don't worry I will take you there soon!

Chapter 120

The Evil Dragon, Cat Person and Ball Rabbit

I cut the cactus remains into pieces with the tips of my nails to make it easier to eat. I collected and arranged them on top of the cactus skin so as not to get them dirty, avoiding the ones glazed in my saliva as much as possible. Seeing the ball rabbit approaching I use my tail and secure it in place.

[Normal Skill [Dragon Tail] Lv increased from 1 to 2]

Is it even possible to do such a thing?

I should use my tail more often.

“Pefu! Pefu!”

The ball rabbit starts hitting my foot with its ears.

Endure me.

I could eat it so easily, as if it was part of my saliva.

“pefu.....”

The ball rabbit drops its ears in disappointment. While it was resentfully looking at me, I dragged my body and approached the mountain of saliva glazed cactus. Should I eat it after all? No, I don’t hate its guts after all.

Nina woke up in the meantime.

Looking at me, she let out a “hinyaa” and retreated.

“Ga.....”

I tried to call out, but as soon as Nina heard it she screamed “Nya!”, so I closed my mouth.

I show that I'm cutting the cactus and desperately arranged them with my toe, and laugh with a full smile. Perhaps it would have been better to just slightly narrow my eyes a bit instead.

Nina looks at me and open her cat eyes in a strange way, and then turns her eyes towards the skin of the cactus that she's laying on. Then she turns her eyes towards me again. Anyway, so as to not be intimidating, I curl up on the spot and lower my line of sight.

"Uhm, maybe, You want me to accept it... Nya?"

It seems that my intention got through. When I nodded a few times, Nina laughed a little. It seems that the tension faded a bit.

"Oh, thank you-nya."

Tears came to my eyes when I heard Nina say so. To say thank you, there are only two people to say such words to me in this world.

By instinct, I emotionally stand up. Because I suddenly moved, Nina's body trembled from being scared, and she put up her arm in front of my body. Hah... This wasn't very wise to do.

The ball rabbit spits out the skin of the cactus that had been in its mouth and goes over towards Nina while dragging its ears. What is it ball rabbit, what are you going to do?

When the ball rabbit gets to her side, it slowly lowers Nina's raised arm.

"Ball rabbit...? Are you the Dragon's emergency food...?"

No!

What!? I won't do something like that!

I shake my head in full force.

"PefuuPefu!"

The ball rabbit bounces at Nina's feet. While struggling a bit, Nina stretches her hands towards the ball rabbit and holds it up. The ball rabbit sits in the arms of Nina, it

doesn't look to bad.

"Wow, how cute....."

Nina's stiff body loosens up a bit. The ball rabbit looks at me with a proud face.

It was good to deal with Nina's nervousness... but why do I feel something's not right... ball rabbit, haven't you tried to eat Nina before?

Looks are important after all...

I wonder if I should have aimed to be like that instead in my evolution's. I would have liked to be a fluffy dragon. A sheep dragon, or a cloud dragon, something like that. I recall all the wasteful evolution's and titles I gained, hah, it's useless to think about it now.

What can I even aim for now at this point? Is there anything? Should I eat a sheep every day?

I know that Nina will stiffen up again if I approached, so I decided to create a little distance. As soon as I opened up about 10 meters, I quickly recommended the cactus with my hand.

Nina should be thirsty by now. Still she doesn't approach the cactus, it seems she is still cautious of me. Even though she said "Thank you" a little while ago, I wonder if she feels awkward dining with a dragon.

Nina timidly bows to me. She gets closer to the cactus and takes a hold of one while looking at me as if asking.

I'm not making you eat so you can fatten up you know!

You can be sure of it!

I have never eaten any humans!

Nina pulls in the cactus but she doesn't start eating it. It seems that since I was the one who brought it, she is doubtful whether it's really food? But, it smells so sweet, if you are thirsty and hungry it's best to eat. Is it just because you're afraid of me...?

“Pefuu”

The ball rabbit rubs against Nina’s feet and lets out a cry. Then the ball rabbit gently looks at me and narrows its eyes while shaking its head a little.

Oh, now that I’m looking at it, Nina’s movements have become stiff, maybe because I was staring at her...

I was getting “You are staring to much” and “There’s too much pressure because you keep staring”, indications from the ball rabbit. I moved my gaze away, and Nina finally brought a piece of the cactus to her mouth.

Hmm, seems like this is the first time Nina has eaten cactus, after having taken a bite she started blinking and her eyes rounded. Well it is pretty delicious. It’s impossible to not be surprised. As I guessed, she was quite hungry, she’s biting at it full of vigor. The ball rabbit also started eating a little bit of the food, but it helped to alleviate Nina’s cautiousness, did you think I wouldn’t notice?

When Nina finishes eating, should I talk with her using [Human Transformation Technique] and ask her where she wants to go from here? I’ll do that next... maybe. It does consume a lot of MP though. It won’t be good if it becomes empty again.

Well, should I eat the remains that are covered in my spit? Thinking back to it... its from that time. After all I don’t feel like eating my own saliva. Looking at it while thinking of what had happened, it looks more dirty than necessary. Does the bacteria start to grow on it as soon as it touches the air?

I did not think about it when I did it to the ball rabbit.

Was it actually really bad? Sorry, ball rabbit.

But I should eat even if I think it’s disgusting. I’ll give it a try, but only a little.

Chapter 121

A Second Conversation

I look at Nina eating her meal from afar. Sometimes our eyes met and it became awkward, where then the ball rabbit would scold me so I lower my eyes, this continued until the end of the meal.

The ball rabbit cleaned up whatever was left. Whats going on in its stomach. It should have eaten more than its weight, but it seems as if its appearance doesn't change.

Nina's complexion has become better after finishing her meal. I think that her facial expressions have become somewhat lighter. Now that I think about it, I feel as if I had not eaten anything recently.

So what should I do now that Nina's meal is over? The MP consumption of [Human Transformation Technique] is pretty high. If I use it, I will have to make sure the flow of the conversation progresses steadily while watching the decrease in MP. My MP has already considerably decreased due to my fight with the needle camel. It's also necessary to leave a little MP, but determining how much would be good is difficult. I also need to plan out what I want to talk about in advance, how to end it and how to deal with how she may act towards it ahead of time. Making a mistake will only be a waste of MP.

If I move slowly she won't be as stunned as she was before. The [Human Transformation Technique] will be better this time around since its Lv is now 4, but it still looks a little scary when I only take the shape of a human.

While thinking over what to do, Nina walked over in my direction. Her steps are cautious, and I could sense fear. Nina is tightly hugging the ball rabbit in her arms. Somehow, I have this happy feeling...

"Ah, thank you very much-nya! For the meal you prepared... and well, did you help me get away from that monster?"

"Guruh"

I say so with a low voice. Well, here it goes. If it's now, I should be able to smoothly talk using the [Human Transformation Technique]. How much MP do I have...

[Irushia]

Race: Evil Plague Dragon

State: Normal

Lv: 29/75

HP: 182/293

MP: 41/213

...41 seconds, the conversation will have to be brief. I have to at least leave a little or ill collapse again, is 30 seconds the limit? To begin with I only had about three minutes at its fullest.

Well, it should do.

I still need to hear where Nina wants to go after all. If I don't do anything now, she will end up as monsters food first, and if I stay with her too long, the effects of [Dragon Scales] will start to affect her.

Ive finally come to a resolution, took a deep breath and activated [Human Transformation Technique]. Heat runs throughout my body as it compresses. I don't know whether it was because the skill was Lv4, or I just got used to it, but it was not painful.

The shape of my body is more stable than before. Before the skill leveled up, it was hard to find a place to look at me, especially since I was naked. I have a tail, scales, and fangs that are hanging around. Well, I can't afford to look over my change carefully.

I don't know if it was because it was the second time she saw this figure, or it was because it was more stable than before, but Nina doesn't get as frightened as she was before. Nina was hugging the ball rabbit so tightly that the ball rabbit started smacking her arms with its ears.

"Where, want to go? this place, dangerous. I, take you somewhere" (Irushia)

".....Ah"

When I ask, Nina's mouth shuts. The silence continues, as my MP is steadily decreasing. Something, please say something. Was my way of asking bad? Or maybe, it's my appearance after all? Was it, my home will be burned if I say my home?

"I do not understand-nya... where does Nina, want to go...?"

She slumps her head down. The ball rabbit looks up at her face and cheerfully barks "Pefuu..."

It doesn't look like she will be going back to that place where she was brought from in the carriage. I wouldn't think that she would follow the man who seems to be her master. Especially since he tried to feed her to that centipede to become its food.

"Somewhere, in trees..." (Irushia)

The moment I opened my mouth, I felt a sense of magical power getting pulled out of my body.

Chapter 122

Hyena

I run with Nina on my back while being careful not to shake her off. She's holding the ball rabbit with one arm, and using her claws on the other hand to desperately hold onto me. Since it's the ball rabbit you don't have to hold it like that, as I'm sure it could just hold on with its ears.

For the ball rabbit, this speed is still good enough for it to be on my head.

Nina was panicking in the beginning, but she seems better now, and the amount of power she is using to hold on to me has slackened a bit. When I looked back, it seems that she's comfortable enough to look around. There was no timidity left, it looked like she was having fun.

"Pefu, Pefuu"

The ball rabbit stretches its ears from Nina's arms and hits my back. Have you gotten hungry? It should have eaten while I was paying attention to Nina a while ago. I guess it was saving some for her.

The way it's struggling is like an incarnation of appetite. Oh, looks like I was too preoccupied looking at the ball rabbit as I slowed down a bit. Let's keep going.

"Nyaa! Ah, umm umm, where are we going..."

"Garua!"

Even if you ask, I'm sorry but I can't answer. I'll tell you when we get there. But, don't worry we'll be there soon.

I should think about what to do after we get to where I left the remains of the needle camel. Being a human in this desert is tough, you will get thirsty and your physical strength will become exhausted. I should make a tent out of the needle camel's body for Nina and the ball rabbit. Even if the ball rabbit eats some, there should be plenty left to work with.

Oh, looks like we're almost there. The hill we just crossed feels familiar, my mouth instinctively opened.

Eight beasts were gathered around the remains of the needle camel messily eating. The beasts have refined short legs, and looked like gray leopards. No, it was more like a hyena than a leopard. The eight were different in size, and some were small newborns.

"Aesu?" "Aesu!"

"Aveeeesu!"

They cry as if singing when I look at them, they run away while holding a piece of the needle camel. Hey, at least leave it there.

I feel a murderous stare coming from the ball rabbit behind me. I don't think it was an E rank monster. Still I can't just let the hyenas escape.

Ill check their status for now I guess. It might be dangerous to follow after them with my current MP. I turn my eyes towards the heartiest looking fellow.

Race: Ianian

State: Normal

Lv: 23/27

HP: 83/83

MP: 31/31

Attack: 95

Defense: 64

Mana: 41

Speed: 113

Rank: D-

Characteristic Skill:

[Group Behavior: Lv-] [Wild Intuition: Lv1]

Resistant Skill:

[Earth Attribute Resistance: Lv3] [Poison Resistance: Lv2] [Decay Resistance: Lv2]

Normal Skill:

[Howl: Lv2] [Bite: Lv2] [Mirage: Lv3] [Group Call: Lv3]

Title Skill:

[Chicken Runner: Lv3] [Grave-Robbing: Lv2] [Stealing: Lv2]

Alright, I'll be able to handle this. I can't wait to mince them up like ground meat and make a mountain of Hyena hamburger.

When I was about to start my chase, I suddenly remembered Nina who was behind me. I can't leave like this. How am I supposed to keep an eye on her while chasing them? Run backwards?

Ah, well, for now I'll just run a little away from the flock and just target the slowest Ianian. As I was beginning my chase I felt a sense of Deja vu.

Perhaps, was this a mirage? At the same time I thought so, the Ianian's form distorted and appeared farther than before. It's already this far. But, at least I was able to catch on early, I'll still be able to catch up.

"Gaa!"

I give a warning to Nina and the ball rabbit who are on my back. I won't go full speed, but it should be decent enough, just until I catch it.

As I put strength into my feet the Ianian rushed towards me. Its as if its eager. I thought that it was a mirage, but I don't feel that it is. The [Status Check] also confirmed it, just what is it thinking?

For some reason the smallest Ianian was the one that rushed. It was two times smaller than the others, its eyes were flat and the meat seemed soft. Compared to the ball rabbit that tripled in size, I feel that the Ianian's evolution does not affect it much apart from its name. Isn't this Ianian just a child?

"Aesu! Aesu!"

It was high-pitched, like that of a child. I stopped moving after I heard it.

When I set my eyes on it, it picked up a piece of the needle camel by its mouth.

Apparently, it came back to pick up what it dropped along the way. The young Ianian delightfully narrows its eyes and shakes off the sand from the cactus.

I could take it out with one blow if I time it right. Although, I can do it, my hands won't move. I can't do something like that as a human being, even though I'm a dragon now.

Come on, don't lose focus now me. I have killed many monsters before. Shouldn't this be the same as following escaping prey? I desperately think as such, but my body still doesn't move at all.

"Avesu!"

My focus returns after hearing the sharp barks. A seasoned looking adult Ianian picks up the young one from the back of the neck and rushed towards his flock after glancing at me. A piece of the needle camel falls out again from the young Ianian's mouth along the way.

"Aesu!"

The young Ianian cries out, but the adult Ianian keeps moving without care. Far away I hear "Aesu!" as if it's scolding the child. After which the young Ianian sadly lowers its head.

I'm still close enough to go and catch them, but for some reason I don't really feel like it. "peshi peshi" the ball rabbit hits my back with its ears.

No, I can't do it. If I go after them then my [Path of Evil] title will Lv up. If that happens then this desert will be destroyed because of my scales.

Anyways, looking back there is still some needle camel remains left around so its not too much of a loss.

Ha, even though I was the one who defeated it...

Was it because it has such a sweet smell?

Is this the way nature works?

Haa... ah.

I could hear Nina's unintentional laughter from behind. When I look back to see, Nina hurriedly closed her mouth with her hand. Since she got a laugh out of it, I guess it wasn't to bad.

Noticing that covering her mouth didn't work, she removed her hand with a bitter smile.

"...Nya, umm, you are pretty kind aren't you?"

I guess this incident helped in gaining a little trust at least.

If I would have attacked without hesitation then her mood towards me would have definitely turned bitter.

The ball rabbit angrily puffs its cheeks and turns its face sideways with a "Pui".

Chapter 123

Ball Rabbit vs Camel

“Garuaaa!”

I shout while running in the desert, tapping the body of the three headed Motarikemeru (Dota reference?) lightly with my nails.

“Noguve!”

The three headed camel rolled while bleeding from its chest and ran into a small sandy hill burying its body. It shouldn't have died since I did it lightly, but it seems that its hind legs are shaking about.

I turn around and call out to the ball rabbit with a “gaa”.

I have to raise the level of the ball rabbit. If it ever gets dangerous I'll need it to dig me a house.

The ball rabbit jumps out of Nina's arm and gets on my tail. I have it go to the base and hold on with its ears so it doesn't fall.

“Nya? Whats going on...?”

Nina thinks it's strange, but I'm doing this since my MP has already recovered. I extend my tail towards the camel and the ball rabbit jumps off, and approaches the prey.

This is what is called power leveling, I was disgusted at myself at first but I've gradually become used to it. I had to do this for it to grow, did you think it will be fast enough if I didn't do this, did I awaken to a battle maniac or did my will just break?

“Pefu!”

Two fireballs are shot out from the ball rabbit. This is its skill [Light]. I think the fireball is bigger than before. Well, when I think about it, it only could shoot out one before. This is probably from the skill being Lv2 right? I'll have to check the ball rabbits status

again when this is over.

A fireball shoots out from the ball rabbit and attacks the three headed camel. As expected, the difference in combat capabilities is large so it doesn't seem to have received much damage from that. But the three headed camel can't move much so there's no need to be impatient.

After the ball rabbit shot out a few more fireballs to the point of emptying its MP, it closed the distance to the three headed camel. I guess it decided to enter into a melee combat.

The ball rabbit lifts one of its ears and enters the range to one of the three-headed camels heads. As if it was waiting for it, the three headed camel stood up with shaking legs. I think the three headed camel tried to make us relax our guard, because it looks like it's more injured than it should be.

"Noguvea!"

"Pefu!?"

When the ball rabbit noticed, it quickly hits the ground with its ear and jumps backward. But, it's too late, it can't be avoided at this point.

When the middle head opened its mouth a thin stream of water shoots out from it aiming straight for the ball rabbit.

Such a cute name such as water gun doesn't suit it. It's like a water laser, it has enough power to crush the surface of a tree.

The ball rabbit uses its ears to cover its face. It's like a defensive response to fear. Closing your eyes now won't change anything in this match.

I put my hand in front of the ball rabbit and block the water stream. The water scattered with a splatter after hitting the back of my hand.

The ball rabbit pulls in its ears fearfully, and looks down while looking at the scene unfolding.

I move my arm towards the three headed camel as it's moving its head back and deeply pierce its body with my nails. The meat pieces scatter as the three headed camel

unceremoniously collapsed.

[32 experience points acquired] [Title Skill [Walking Egg: Lv-] activated, 32 bonus experience points acquired]

I got some experience points at least. You can see how much it affected the ball rabbit, but it got impatient.

The scary part about power leveling is that the ball rabbit could die if the monster counterattacks. Sorry about interfering but I had to. That water stream could have ended badly if I wasn't there to block it.

It seems that gaining experience will be tough unless the opponent is completely paralyzed. The ball rabbit tried to avoid an attack with all its power, so I guess it counts for battle experience. I wonder if something like that will also raise its level.

Still though, what was that skill called? [Aqua]? It shot out water from its mouth magically? If that's so, I should tie it down and make it into a water camel tap. Life here would be much easier with that. Should I try it next time?

The ball rabbit looks at me as if it wants to tell me something after turning its eyes towards the three headed camel that I took out with a single blow. What is it ball rabbit, you can go eat some meat if you want. You should be happier. I don't want to eat the heads, and I don't think Nina will either so you can have them all.

When I looked at the ball rabbit when I was thinking that, it started hitting my feet with its ears. Maybe it was angry because of the frightening battle it just had.

Im sure that this kind of fight was necessary!

I don't know how long we'll be together, but if I leave you as is in the wild, then you'll be killed by a monster someday!

Actually it seems as though it's angry for a different reason.....

Well, for now let's check your status.

Race: Ball Rabbit

State: Normal

Lv: 12/12(MAX)

HP: 39/45

MP: 2/32

Attack: 20

Defense: 24

Mana: 33

Speed: 27

Rank: E-

Characteristic Skill:

[Concealment: Lv1] [Food Regeneration: Lv3]

Resistant Skill:

[Hunger Resistance: Lv4] [Poison Resistance: Lv1] [Overeating Resistance: Lv2]

Normal Skill:

[Dig: Lv2] [Light: Lv3] [Playing Dead: Lv1] [Wild Whip Dance: Lv5] [Swallow: Lv1]
[Internal Storage Space: Lv1] [Charm: Lv1] [Shred: Lv1] [Rest: Lv1]

Title Skill:

[Idol of the Desert: Lv2] [Kin Eater: Lv1] [Lv Up Parasite: Lv3] [Big Eater: Lv4]

Oh, it's Lv is already at max!

It should evolve after eating one more meal.

Some of its skill Lv's also went up since the last time I checked. I guess it went hunting on its own when I wasn't looking. Leaving Nina alone.

The skill [Light] went from Lv2 to 3. Well, that should have been obvious seen as it was shooting out two at a time, and they were bigger than before.

[Rest] also rose up a Lv from 1 to 2. Recovery magic is important, so please keep it up ball rabbit.

The [Wild Whip Dance] also rose from Lv 3 to 5... Oh, yeah, its always “pechi peching” me.

Well, I hope that you were doing it to train.

Among the skills that leveled up there was also [Big Eater] and [Overeating Resistance]. That’s to be expected I guess as it always eats with vigor.

I wonder if I should reduce its meals.

When pigs are served, they eat as much as they are served because they can’t get the food as steadily in nature, and because of this they try to pack in as much as possible. So if you eat every time till you’re satisfied, you might break your body. So is it really better to limit its food?

Resistance to overeating is essential I guess if it wants its body to grow.

Well for now how should I separate the portions for me and Nina?

I might be up for eating a head. I wonder what the camel tastes like? I’m looking forward to it.

When I nod to myself, my eyes focused on the ball rabbit as it started sniffing around strangely.

What are you thinking? Are you able to tell what I’m thinking?

...hmm?

“fa..... fa, he, hefushi!”

A small amount of saliva flies out of the mouth of the ball rabbit. Certainly, there was saliva before at times.....

I hastily confirm its status, but there’s no abnormality in its state.

It’s strange.

I don’t think this was due to the natural gases around.

Could this be because of my dragon scale powder.

Chapter 124

Ball Rabbit, The Next Evolution

I cut the camel using my nails and cook it with my [Scorching Breath]. I won't eat the three heads but I'm sure the ball rabbit will. Let's make sure to cook it well. I should probably put the ball rabbit in a little diet... but ill leave it alone for today. Seeing as today will be the last meal we'll have together.

There's no doubt that its strange behavior is because of my [Dragon Scales].

When I used [Plague Breath] on the camel sometime ago, it suffered from the condition [curse(small)]. However the ball rabbits condition is still shown as [Normal]. But that doesn't mean that it wasn't affected.

Perhaps even now the ball rabbit is affected with a [curse(small)]. If I stay together with them then it may get worse and then they die. When I heard the previous explanation about [curse] from [God's Voice], there is a limited means for treatment as it acts as a type of poison. But, if the one who cast it is separated from the affected in the early stages then there is a chance that the affected will recover.

Leaving now would be preferable.

So when we finish eating, that'll be it. Should I let it dig me out a house? It would make it more difficult for the ball rabbit if I stay any longer than this.

Was it when I almost vomited that [Plague Breath] got in? Well, it's more likely that its was my [Dragon Scales]. That also means that it will start showing up in Nina as well in a few days.

I would like to take her to a safe place somewhere before that happens...

Nina might hate it, but if worse comes to worst, I'll have to take her to the wall surrounded city. It's much safer than this desert where there are crowds of monsters roaming. Although I do want to hear her story using [Human Transformation Technique] but it doesn't look like I'll get to.

“Pefu?”

The ball rabbit comes near me and stares.

I’m sorry ball rabbit.

It’ll be farewell at this point.

“Pefu! Pefu!”

Although my intention was not fully conveyed, the ball rabbit still angrily hits my foot with a “peshipeshi”. This continued for a few minutes before the ball rabbit hangs its ears down as if it was tired, and drops its eyes looking depressed.

It’ll be alright.

If it’s you as you are, you won’t get eaten in this desert.

So that’s why, don’t put on such a sad face.

“Pefuu.....”

Nina was sitting on the cactus skin, looking at our situation with an anxious face. She probably felt that something was amiss from our interaction.

The camels done cooking. But since there wasn’t any salt this time, I just passed it over the fire a few times, which was difficult trying make sure it doesn’t burn.

I place the meat on the cactus skin which I used as a substitute plate. I prepared two plates for the ball rabbit and Nina, and I’ll eat the rest directly without the dish. I added a lot of white fleshy fatty meat, and also the three heads for the ball rabbit.

I recommend that Nina try some while feeling anxious whether she will like it or not, I also put a piece into my mouth. The camel has a similar flavor to beef. There was a slight smell, but you could get used to it.

I think that it’s quite delicious, but when I start to think about the ball rabbit I lose my appetite. I raised my face to look at how the ball rabbit is faring with its meal, and our eyes met.

It seems it doesn't want to eat in front of me. Is my face really that gross? Why did you stop eating. It's quite delicious.

When I encourage it with my eyes, the ball rabbit finally starts to eat the meat slowly.

"Nya... uh, umm, Mr. Dragon, did you get into a fight with the ball?"

Hearing that she asked me a question, I turned towards her, but seeing me do so made her body go stiff. I guess my body is too intimidating...

Even now I'm confident that I will faint if I ever surprise myself by seeing my reflection. When I think about it, my human side would want to use my nails to cut my neck.

Wait, ball?

Does she mean the ball rabbit?

Nina and the ball rabbit, have become pretty friendly...

Is it better to leave Nina with the ball rabbit?

Even if I do the ball rabbit still needs to protect itself... there's a time limit on how long I can stay next to things.

Unusually, the ball rabbit left its meal.

The ball rabbit is mad at me as it may have instinctively perceived that it was my fault. It also had on a dark expression, as if it knew what I was planning to do.

"Hey Ball?"

As I was watching the sky thinking, Nina feebly calls out to the ball rabbit.

The ball rabbit began to tremble wildly, and started rapidly growing.

Is it evolving?

Finally, it's time to see what the ball rabbit ends up as.

The ball rabbits body bulges and its sand colored hair scatters.

It lost the sand color and it started turning white?

No, it's a light pink... it's kind of like a cherry blossom that's close to white?

Isn't that color difficult to hide in the sand?

I'm a little worried now.

The softball, became a small watermelon, this time there is more cushion and a person could probably sit on it.

The first one could be carried in one's hand, now it's a small ball, so is it a medium ball rabbit now?

Race: Peach Ball Rabbit

State: Normal

Lv: 1/30

HP: 39/47

MP: 2/34

Attack: 18

Defense: 20

Mana: 26

Speed: 22

Rank: D

Characteristic Skill:

[Concealment: Lv2] [Food Reproduction: Lv3] [Telepathy: Lv1]

Resistant Skill:

[Hunger Resistance: Lv4] [Poison Resistance: Lv3] [Overeating Resistance: Lv2] [Dirt Resistance: Lv2] [Curse Resistance: Lv2]

Normal Skill:

[Dig: Lv3] [Light: Lv4] [Playing Dead: Lv1] [Wild Whip Dance: Lv5] [Swallow: Lv2]
[Internal Space Storage: Lv2] [Charm: Lv2] [Shred: Lv2] [Rest: Lv2] [Clean: Lv1]

Title Skill:

[Idol of the Desert: Lv3] [Kin Eater: Lv1] [Lv Up Parasite: Lv3] [Big Eater: Lv4]
[Mutation: Lv-] [Gross Eater: Lv1]

Peach... so there are peaches in this world.

Is there anything inside of it?

Well, isn't it that kind of monster?

I had thought that its rank would be D-, but it went straight to D?

Its rank is above the black lizard, about where I was at one point. The results of power leveling. Compared to the time we met, it's changed a lot. If its level increases, it could defeat a grey wolf. I can't imagine that happening.

A strong enemy for the ball rabbit would be one that could dig holes. If there was one then it wouldn't be able to stay here.

The strong survive, but what about the ball rabbit?

Resistance Skill:

[Hunger Resistance: Lv4] [Poison Resistance: Lv3] [Overeating Resistance: Lv2] [Dirt Resistance: Lv2] [Curse Resistance: Lv2]

But, what, what is [Curse Resistance]?

Hey! [God's Voice] please tell me the details of the peach ball rabbit!

[[Peach Ball Rabbit] D rank monster] [Individuals that mutated to adapt to their environment by living their infancy as a ball rabbit in an unclean land] [Basically can eat anything] [The land where the red ball rabbit inhabits is usually not a place where people can live, so if you see one, get away quickly] [In theory it is said that it will become reddish to send signals of danger to other creatures]

So, since it was with me from the time it was an infant, it could tolerate me?

Well, even if you could stay with me... Wait, where is the unclean land!?

Am I the unclean land? Is that me!? Why? Who says I'm not clean!?

Chapter 125

Telepathy

The normal skills that the ball rabbit gained after evolution are [Telepathy] and [Clean]. I think that [Telepathy] was brought out because of the ball rabbits strange observation ability. Also, [Clean]... why would it go that far? What exactly are you cleaning?

Then [Telepathy], there was a fellow who had it if I recall. You could read the minds of others and send your own thoughts as well.

Actually, as long as the ball rabbit could translate, I could communicate with Nina without using [Human Transformation Technique]. It will be perfect if the ball rabbit could read my thoughts and have it sent over to Nina. Nina could just communicate with me normally since I understand it.

Hey, ball rabbit, can you read my thoughts? I have something I want to ask!

“Puhe!”

When I desperately pray for it to work, the ball rabbit raises its head and looks at me.

Was it possible!

Now with this, we could begin the ball rabbit phone operation.

When I match my eyes with the ball rabbit, I could feel thoughts fly from the ball rabbit.

“I’m hungry”

It only said that as it went for the camel that it didn’t finish eating.

Oh, yeah, food is important after all.....

Well, it did evolve and its mass increased, emptying its stomach, yeah.

Since the ball rabbits ears have become huge, I wonder if it will drag its ears...

It looks like it couldn't eat earlier as it was preparing to evolve, but now that it has, the hunger came back.

Can't be helped.

"Dingding" eat your fill.

The ball rabbit grabs the head of the camel that he had left with its ears and throws it into its mouth. "Munch, swallow, munch". The ball rabbit makes chewing sounds over and over again with its teeth. After chewing for a bit, it followed with a swallow, and then came time for the next head. As the ball rabbit was finishing the third one, an eyeball from the camel popped out of its mouth.

This fellow, isn't it supposed to be the [Idol of the Desert]?

Even Nina moved back a little.

No, even I'm having a hard time with it.

Since I only ate enough to get a taste, I'll eat some more. I haven't tried the lump part yet. I was wondering what this will taste like.

I bite into the back of the lump, tearing a good chunk out.

Its soft. The texture, how should I put it. Entrail like? It is a mass of fat after all, but I don't dislike it.

While I was enjoying the taste of the lump, I noticed that the ball rabbit finished its meal. I swallow the meat that was left in my mouth and approach the ball rabbit to ask it to be an interpreter.

"Puhe"

The ball rabbit shakes its small head... Why?

Race: Peach Ball Rabbit

State: Normal

Lv: 1/30

HP: 47/47

MP: 1/34

Whoa, it MP is empty.

That reminds me, you repeatedly used [Light] in the match against the camel, and evolving doesn't recover the lost MP. I also don't know how much MP [Telepathy] takes.

Let's try having you be my translator tomorrow. I hope Nina doesn't start getting sick.

I wouldn't have thought that both [Human Transformation Technique] and [Telepathy] would drain so much MP. I didn't think that it was that strong of a skill. I wonder if it also used [Rest].

The ball rabbits Lv is low but its MP is at max. Should I raise its level today? Shouldn't I be able to raise its stats by handing it the experience like before?

Will it not be that easy?

When I raise my level, [Son of The Dragon King] lowers the amount of experience I need, and [Walking Egg] doubles the amount I receive. My methods may not work well for the ball rabbit.

Well, when we hunt again, I will have the ball rabbit try fighting again. If it gets tough, ill handle it.

I may need to have the ball rabbit and Nina make some room on my back, as I will need to carry what's left of the cactus camel for food and water. Also I'll need to find the beach or some kind of body of water, as I'm sure Nina will want to bathe.

"Gurua"

I call out to the ball rabbit and Nina to get on my back. Once she gets on my back Nina desperately grabbed a hold of the ball rabbit. I think that the ball rabbit got heavier, so

don't try to force it to much. Also, Nina has gotten a little used to it as she is not as scared as before.

So... where is there an ocean? Perhaps it's this way. The cactus must be hydrated with something. Reaching a body of water is the goal for now. I'll be fine but Nina and the ball rabbit may need it.

Ah, if there was still some of that huge cactus camel left, I could have safely stayed there.

It can't be helped now, forget forget, me.

I don't feel like chasing down the group of hyena.

That guy's eyes were too cute. Damn it, at least let me see you a bit more since you took all the food.....

Ha, I guess I'll just rest up my MP as I eat cactus. You must search for cactus on a continuous basis if you want to live in this desert.

Would it be fine leaving this desert?

I don't want to go near a village in my present form, and in this desert that's short on water I would look like even more of a monster. Nonetheless, this environment is not good for Nina. This is something I would like to discuss with her using my [Human Transformation Technique] along with the ball rabbits translation machine.

Oh, I could see water in the distance... the sea, no, isn't it too small for a sea?

I can see something green moving! What the? There's a lake in the middle of this desert! it's not very big but it's enough. In the lake's surroundings I could see long grass and lightly colored flowers.

Isn't this a paradise?

That right there, our base is decided!

"Gurua! guruaa!"

Fully excited I reflexively turn my head and yell to the back to Nina and the ball rabbit.

“Nyau!”

Nina tumbles in surprise which wakes up the sleeping ball rabbit as it quickly fixes Nina’s posture with its ears.

The ball rabbit looks at me with strange eyes.

Soo... sorry... but, just now.

But hey, look at the front!

There is a lake, it’s a lake! Let’s go see it!

Chapter 126

Ruler of Paradise

A small mysterious lake, located in the middle of the desert. There is also enough space for me to take two baths at the same time if I were to squeeze in tightly. But I won't do that since the effects of [Dragon Scales] will spread.

Even though the water is crystal clear clean water, it will be ruined if I go in.

I am unclean.

Many colorful plants are blooming around the lake. My mind becomes clear just by looking at it.

Is it just me, or is this an oasis?

I wonder if there are water veins passing underground. Actually, I don't really understand much about this world. There could even be a crystal at the bottom of the lake where all the water comes from for all I know.

As I approached, my [Presence Sense] began to react.

There must already be an occupant.

I was surprised but it doesn't seem like a bad guy... I thought as I watched the lake... then something got up from the flower garden.

I didn't notice it at first since it looks like a rock. Is it a huge slug?

Its body surface was slimy, with a green that was close to black which made it look eerie. Compared with the gorgeous oasis, it's a little out of place. It's also vandalizing the flowers by eating them from the roots.

To even eat the soil.

Not even the ball rabbit is that gluttonous.

Other than that, I can't feel much danger. Even if there was it's so small and weak that it's not enough to mind. It's not very appetizing, but if I want to make a base here I will have to eliminate it.

I can't tell how strong it is from this distance, but it's about the same size as that cactus monster. At that size it will be difficult to fight with the ball rabbit and Nina around.

I bend down and let Nina and the ball rabbit get off before reaching the lake. I'll leave Nina's bodyguard duty to you for a moment ball rabbit.

The huge slug noticed me and trembled as its two antenna pointed towards me.

I stand in the space between the flower garden and the desert to confront the huge slug.

Status check!

Race: Amagarashi

State: Normal

Lv: 26/50

HP: 207/207

MP: 94/94

Attack: 190

Defense: 188

Mana: 138

Speed: 163

Rank: C

Characteristic Skill:

[Soft Body: Lv-] [Viscous Body Fluid: Lv-] [Water Absorption: Lv3] [Automatic MP Recovery: Lv5]

Resistant Skill:

[Paralysis Resistance: Lv2] [Poison Resistance: Lv4] [Magic Resistance: Lv4]
[Confusion Resistance: Lv5]

Normal Skill:

[Mirage: Lv5] [Praying for Rain: Lv3] [Dig: Lv3] [Water-Gun: Lv5] [Spawning: Lv4]

[Bloodsucking: Lv2] [Sandstorm: Lv2] [Flexibility: Lv3] [Self-Recovery: Lv3]

Title Skill:

[Ruler of Paradise: Lv-] [Magic User: Lv3]

C'mon, this isn't a C rank monster.

Despite how it looks, its speed is high, and it also has a Lv5 [Mirage] that I hate.

Its stats are also about where the Little Rock Dragon was.

I was able to win then, and my Lv's increased since then. Ill also be able to take a few hits from it head on easily.

I can't have this oasis without taking it down, let's take it out for the ball rabbit and Nina!

Leaving the ball rabbit behind was the right answer. It can't compete with monsters of this rank just yet.

Alright, gather myself, concentrate!

[Presence Sense] is already always on as an early alarm. I will use it to deal with [Mirage] or the battle will drag on. There's a status difference so I want to solve this as quickly as I can.

I stepped into the flower garden and closed the distance to the huge slug immediately. The huge slug lifts its upper body to intimidate me.

"Shaaaaa!"

The slugs large body folds and divides into two. It doesn't have that kind of skill, but I do know what it does have!

The right side is an imposter, and the left one is just an afterimage. Unfortunately for you big slug, [Presence Sense] tells me exactly where you are.

I zone out my eyes and put my focus on my senses instead. My field of vision fluctuated and the big slug on the right disappeared.

[Resistant Skill [Illusion Resistance: Lv1] was obtained]

Alright, I got a new resistance skill. I can win if it's like this.

I put strength into my feet, kick the ground and fly low.

I swing my hand in the air and hit the head of the big slug with my claws. The heavy claws stabbed into the big slugs body. Putting strength into my fingers, and gouge out the flesh.

“Ajaaaaaasu!”

Guts and body fluids splatter and the big slug screams in pain. I go through the right side of the big slug due to the momentum.

Pieces of flesh from the big slug is left in my nails, so I shake it off making it scatter around.

I landed while turning my body, and looked back towards the big slug. Bodily fluids were spilling out of the big slugs left belly.

I made a mistake.

I was planning to strike from the front, but my aim shifted slightly due to the [Mirage].

Even if I could tell it was a mirage I have a habit of always judging by the eyes.

Would it be better if I fought with my eyes closed? No, that wasn't really the problem this time.....

Although its HP is pretty high, I thought since its defense isn't quite up there I will be able to settle the matter with one decisive blow.

Even though the hit was sufficiently fatal, the flesh is already growing back.

[Self-Recovery] skill.

Its [Automatic MP Recovery] skill Lv is also high, so it prolongs its use of skills.

The tips of the big slugs two antenna form a point and aim towards me. I don't really

want to know what it squeezes out... No, I'm sorry but it is unpleasant.

I'm a little wary of its offensive power since I just interacted with it. It doesn't look like it has a particularly dangerous skill, but it's pretty quick so I just have to be careful there.

I should also increase my [Presence Sense] to ward off [Mirage].

I don't know whether any of my breath techniques will work, but I could at least draw its attention. Also my MP is not at its best after the match with the needle camel. But if I use a feint then hit it with an attack I should be able to suppress my MP consumption.

I'll kill it with the next blow.

At the same time I was preparing to jump again the big slug began to spout liquid from its mouth. It is a viscous translucent liquid.

It doesn't plan to hit me, instead its scattering it around me.

What are you doing?

Chapter 127

Slug Hell

The big slugs surroundings are now covered in a sticky liquid. What's your plan here? Some kind of secret skill to trap me? Is it like caltrops? I would be like a hanging fly if I go straight in, caught like a roach in a sticky roach motel trap, and in that time you would launch your attack.

I think the best way to break through would be using [Scorching Breath] as it has the most power. I can evaporate it all at once.

I jump towards the big slug as originally planned. When the big slug noticed, it turned its head to the ground and gouged out the flowers as it dived into the ground using [Dig] to escape.

It would be fine if it actually escaped, but i don't think it can live in the desert with such a slimy body. There is no way that he will let go of this place. It will only be trying to keep its distance from me. I will put my head into the hole and burn it with a breath attack.

This hole will be its grave.

When approaching the hole, although the enemy couldn't be seen, [Presence Sense] suddenly started reacting.

Not one or two, but numerous bodies have been detected. What is this, it wasn't like this a little while ago.

[Characteristic Skill [Presence Sense] Lv increased from 2 to 3]

As the skill Lv rose, so did my understanding of what was detected.

It was the sticky liquid roughly in the shape of a slug. My field of vision fluctuated and I could see a lot of round things spread around in the liquid he scattered.

The size of the sphere, is about the same size as the ball rabbit when we first met,

which happens to be like a softball.

It seems that it was difficult to see thanks to [Mirage]. If it's done in such a large scale [Presence Sense] won't be able to pick it up since it all looks the same and it's been crafted into small parts.

Even if I could see it... what is it?

The number of spheres is roughly over 30 from the looks of it. Like him they are dirty green... somehow, I feel as though I've seen this somewhere before.

Oh wait, I remember, it looks like a frog's egg.

As I was thinking that, I spit out [Scorching Breath] at full power.

The strong flames burn the sticky liquid and large slug's eggs.

[12 experience points obtained] [Title Skill [Walking Egg: Lv-] activated, 12 bonus points obtained]

With so much of a rank difference, the experience I got from that was so low...

What were these guys ranked. Well, even I was born with an F rank. No, if you think about it, could they even be considered as born yet? They were eggs.

From the looks of it, about a third of them were outside of my range.

The membranes of the eggs from outside my range begin to break, and the young slugs start to emerge.

Race: Baby-Amagarashi

State: Normal

Lv: 1/25

HP: 12/12

MP: 8/8

They are Rank D-. The difference in status is so much that I only need to scratch them with a fingernail to win.

But... There sure are a lot of them.

“ji-!” “ja-!” “ji-!”

“jii-!” “jii-jii!” “ji-!”

A huge group of baby slugs approaches me while wiggling around like worms. Fast. Reasonably fast, and they are going at it with absolutely no hesitation.

It's hard to see their figure in the flower garden, but I could cope using [Presence Sense]. Perhaps it was lucky that I couldn't really see them. I would probably look away even if I could see them. Salt, salt, bring me some salt. I ask for the thing that will likely kill them all.

I spin my tail and whack a few of the incoming slugs. The surrounding slugs are crushed, and a few of them stick to the tail.

Ugh, it's pretty grotesque. Every time one gets taken out I gain an experience point. Though, this is quite efficient, I do not want to keep doing this until I Lv up.

After seeing their brethren being taken out, they take a distance from my tail and spit out a mulch colored liquid.

Ouch!

Although the damage doesn't get through my scales, it still stings a little. Stop that, do not defile me anymore.

I want to sweep them all up with a breath attack, but the liquid from before makes me want to vomit instead. I had planned to use as little MP as possible, but I can't hold back now with so many eggs around.

I thought about crushing them using [Roll], but the small slugs have neither attack power or defense so there is no need to do so. Besides, I will be disgusted if the guts stick to my back.

The small slugs are somewhat fast, but they are far slower than myself. I'll just stay away from the weird liquid, shorten the distance and smash them with my tail and fingernails.

Ahh!

The skin of the slug went under my nail!

No way, seriously no way! This is making me want to run away.

When I looked back, I saw Nina holding the ball rabbit with an uneasy expression. While the ball rabbit continues as usual, irresponsibly shaking its ears as if it's yelling at me to continue.

Actually ball rabbit, what's with that drool hanging out of your mouth?

What, do you want to eat the slugs?

Which reminds me, aren't slugs related to shellfish?

No, I don't even want to consider eating any.

Actually, if it's the small slugs, even the ball rabbit could beat them down, please switch with me. That way I could be the one protecting Nina, and you could swallow up as many of the small slugs as you want.

While thinking of various things, I finally returned my gaze to the small slugs in front on me. There is a large amount of them, but they are not tough opponents. While I'm being sprayed with a green liquid, I continue to cut them down.

[Lv of [Evil Plague Dragon] went up from 29 to 30]

I wonder why, but I'm not at all pleased with the Lv up.

I'm not quite sure but I feel as if I'm reaching a new level of enlightenment.

Finally, the last one was killed with my tail. I turn towards the hole that the big slug dug up. Now, stop hiding behind your harassment tactics. Get out here and let's settle this.

From inside the hole, small slugs begin to spring out.

It's a lie... are we still going to continue slug-leveling.....

Chapter 128

Large Slug Hell

Small slugs came out of the hole one after the other. It's useless to keep killing them. I'll just push through the small slugs and let out a [Scorching Breath] into the hole. Since there is significant difference in status, I should be fine with taking some damage even if I were to get stuck.

The question however, just how far did the large slug dig? I hope the fire can get to it, but if you get surrounded inside you will have trouble getting out of it. Since the sand that makes up the walls are thick I can't detect any signs all too well.

Should I pour in seawater?

Its ability to breed is too high. Why are you so unreasonable large slug. At this rate the entire desert will be filled with large slugs. I wonder if they would refrain from cannibalism due to food shortage.

While swatting around the small slugs with my tail, I reach the hole where the big slug is.

Right then, [Presence Sense] picked up something from right below me.

This guy, he left me a horde of small slugs thinking it would be enough. This is rather disappointing. Thanks to [Presence Sense] I can tell it was already planning a surprise attack on me.

I jump off the ground and extend my wings to fly. Rotating myself I extend my arm downwards and fly down towards the ground. As expected, the large slug peeks through the sand.

Presence detected, entity confirmed!

Orders Confirmed!

Oh, looks like this was a surprise attack, which is a shame since currently I'm in perfect

form!

I pierced its neck with my claw this time, and with the momentum from the fall I cut off its head.

The head of the large slug flies in the air and disperses. The rest of the body also begins to rupture and the flesh starts flying towards me.

No, this isn't just pieces of flesh. One piece after the other, they're all small slugs! What!?

It got me.

This is not the large slug.

It made a pseudo-body using the small slugs with [Mirage]. With [Presence Sense] I was able to see that it was actually hidden deeper underground.

The small slugs that attacked start wrapping around my body.

Wait! You're making me really slimy!

Stop it, stop it, seriously stop! I'm sorry, please forgive me!

Even if there's no physical damage I can still receive terrible mental damage!

Are they trying to suck my blood? Scales, I'm counting on you, please do your job.

The slug swarm is sucking my blood, it's like I crossed into hell.

I could crush them with my nails, but I don't want to touch them.

Should I send them all flying with [Roll]? No, that doesn't sound too pleasant.

Isn't this just an elaborate form of harassment. Well, in the first place it was supposed to be something small to buy time anyway. Whether it was earning time to escape, or to land a strike on me, it has certainly gained its chance.

For now I just have to endure it. This is my chance to sniff out the guy lurking in the ground.

Regardless of how slimy my body is, or if my blood is being sucked, right now I must focus.

I slightly bend my body and make my breathing rough so as to appear weaker than necessary.

The chewing slugs are tasting me a lot right now. It's rarely possible to slurp dragon's blood.

There was a reaction from [Presence Sense] under my tail. This time it's the large slug.

Atta boy! jump in.

I'll kill you at that moment.

"Shaaaaaaaaa!"

Along with the cry of the large slug, something sticks to my tail.

Ugh, get off now!

I pull the clinging large slug into the air from the ground with my tail. I bring in my limbs and tackle the large slug with my body using [Roll].

"Jaaaaaaaaa!!"

I send the large slug flying and scatter the small slugs clinging to my body. This is my chance to end it, but I can't kill it as it is. I close my eyes and repeat my tackle with [Roll] against the large slug relying solely on [Presence Sense]. I chase the large slug and tackle it precisely so that it doesn't fall to the ground.

It will dig another hole and run away again if I let get to the ground.

Let's do this!

The large slug finally looks exhausted after the third round of juggling.

[416 experience points obtained]

[Title Skill [Walking Egg: Lv–] activated, 416 bonus points obtained]

Truly a C ranked monster.

The experience points were plentiful.

[[Evil Plague Dragons]'s Lv has risen from 30 to 36]

Oh, it rose up quite a bit. Although, I rather avoid fighting with slugs from now on.

Since the maximum Lv is 75, I've finally arrived at the turning point.

It's time to start building up my list of good deeds.

I'll have the ball rabbit teach me recovery magic.

[Characteristic Skill [Presence Sense] Lv rose from 3 to 4]

Oh, it went up again?

Maybe since I used it to kill the opponent this time.

Well, whether it is from fighting or hunting, it is important to properly raise it.

Still, there are a lot of small slugs left but... I will have the ball rabbit take care of it.

It will be done soon, I wonder how Nina is holding up.

I redirect my eyes towards the oasis.

The shape begins distorting.

Huh? What, what happened.

The colorful flower garden loses its color, and the clear water changes to a brown color. It is obviously shallower than how I saw it earlier.

In the meantime the gorgeous paradise gradually disappears, only to leave behind a shallow brown swamp and dirty weeds competing for water. The remaining small slugs crawl in making a layer of slugs.

Hold on, what is this, whats going on here?

This is fraud, hey.

Sorry, but this isn't what I expected.

Return it! Return my oasis!

I got covered in the slug's body fluid for this oasis!

[Resistance Skill [Illusion Resistance] Lv rose from 1 to 2]

Too late!

I've already been deceived big time!

Come on, are you serious!

That oasis was a hallucination!

Hey! This is too cruel, I wouldn't have fought if I knew that it was just some shallow swamp!

That large slug, it had a grudge against me and did this!

Chapter 129

Cleanup

I stand in front of the dead large slug and check the detailed information of the monster.

[[Amagarashi]: Rank C monster] [The power to attract rain clouds, it has a habit of making pools of water into their own nest.] [Therefore, in places where the Amagarashi lives in large quantities, the surrounding places will dry up.] [In addition, the times when it is child rearing, it often shows hallucinations to lure in prey into the nest.]

...ha, yeah.

I was successfully lured into the large slugs nest. I'm sorry but not sorry, I don't think I could feel bad for what I just did.

Also, this is a desert, but I don't think it was due to a massive outbreak of slugs. I haven't seen any similar water pools until I came here, so I think that this was a desert from the beginning looking at the size of it. Perhaps, this was a sluggy paradise in the past?

...ha ha well no point in worrying about it now.

What's important now is what I'm going to be doing today.

This water... I cant let Nina drink it. No, even I can't drink it, I feel that you will get sick with something if you drink it.

I mean, it's the same color as the large slug. Actually, It shouldn't be harmful, but still, I don't want to drink it.

You are terrible large slug.

Just how much are you going to tear at my heart until you're satisfied.

To me who is feeling down and suffering, the small slugs start gathering again.

While flicking them away with my wings, I look back towards Nina and the ball rabbit.

Nina had a stiff face while looking at the slug hell, on the other hand, the ball rabbit had gleaming eyes.

Ball rabbit can eat anything, but is whatever OK?

“pefu!”

When I signal the ball rabbit over with my eyes, it jumps out of Nina’s arms and comes over.

The small slugs are Rank D, at this level even the ball rabbit can destroy them alone.

It will be hard to be surrounded so closely, but I’ll be following from the side if I’m needed.

I’m unwilling to continue fighting the slugs myself as there is no longer any way to wash myself, will I be able to wash myself at the sea tomorrow?

I wish there was more water than this. If there was I will gladly paint my body in slugs.

First ill back off a bit and see how the ball rabbit fights. Although it doesn’t have a lot of MP for flashy moves, the ball rabbits overwhelming status over the small slugs will be a sure victory, so it shouldn’t be dangerous.

The ball rabbit has a bigger appetite than me.

Let me go get a better view.

The ball rabbit slams the head of a slug with a whip of its ear and wraps it up as is throwing it into its mouth.

Are you really okay, are you a parasite or something?

Did your brain get taken over. Its chewing as if it’s delicious, sorry but I won’t be doing the same.

Some of its HP got shaved off by the small slugs fluid projectiles and blood sucking, but it fully recovered thanks to [Food Regeneration]. Perhaps having that kind of skill is quite effective when facing multiple opponents.

In that case then I think that guy will be able to handle this somehow. Eat as much as you want, please digest everything and clean it up. I'm sorry slugs, but I won't involve myself with you guys again for the rest of my life.

Get away and escape. Unless you don't want to be raised anywhere else, but if you decide that you will rather live then you will escape from here. I won't concern myself with you anymore.

The small slugs start gathering around and surrounding the ball rabbit. While I was wondering if it will be able to handle it, the ball rabbit stared at me with a glance.

Its Lv is going up and there is still plenty of HP left, but looks like its ears got tired. The moment I thought of helping, I remembered the slimy feeling I felt on my wings and turned my face.

...It's alright ball rabbit, you can still go on.

.Was it a Lion or something, that I was told would push their child down to the bottom of a cliff? Some kind of theory or practice about thinning out the heard.

I felt the ball rabbit staring at me badly, but I just looked up at the sky, desperately trying to think of something different to distract myself.

Oh, because of the large slugs [Praying for Rain] It is certainly just a bit cloudy here. Compared to other places around here, the clouds somewhat block the sunlight, making it a little comfortable, yeah.

Lets not think about where the clouds are gathering towards.

“puhe! puhee!”

Sorry, but excuse me from the slugs already. If you really think that you can't handle it I will help you.

After about ten minutes, due to the ball rabbits struggle, the large group of about 40 small slugs had decreased to its final three.

Well done.

Please quickly take care of the rest of them as well.

Race: Peach Ball Rabbit

State: Normal

Lv: 8/30

HP: 39/51

MP: 2/40

Oh, it's Lv went up!

But as expected from your [Food Regeneration] ball rabbit, you've received little damage. Although it is apparently exhausted already.

"Jiiii!"

The thickest small slug cried out in a strange voice and attacked one of its own. It leaned in and suppressed it to keep it from raging. The slug that was attacked and pinned down stopped moving after convulsing a little.

The slug that took its friends head moved on to attack the next one. Did you get shocked from seeing your friend attacking? it becomes food for the thick slug with no resistance.

What, are you a kin eater? No, it probably thought that it had no other choice to beat the enemy without raising its Lv by eating its companions.

The small slug that ate its friends grew larger than the others and closed the distance to the ball rabbit by contracting and expanding rapidly.

"Jiiiiiiii!"

"pe, pefu!?"

This is bad.

The ball rabbit has plenty of HP but its fatigue is too great. The reaction is slow and it

can't keep track of the incoming small slug with its eyes.

“Jiiia!!”

The small slug greatly jumped.

The ball rabbit covered its face with its ears.

No, that kind of guard is useless.

Although your eyes instinctively closed due to being surprised by the attack.

During a battle, that action is only disadvantageous.

I swept my arm down on the quickly approaching slug and skewered it with my nails.

[2 experience points obtained] [Title Skill [Walking Egg: Lv-] activated, 2 bonus points obtained]

.....ah, I got slug in my fingernail.

I got pieces of its flesh under my nail.

“pefu.....?”

The ball rabbit moves its ears and looks up at me.

I shake my arm around.

The sticking pieces of slug slip off, and fall into the swamp and sink.

Chapter 130

Dream Paradise

We will stop here for today, it will be a good place to rest. The lake which looked beautiful was just a ghost, a dirty swamp in fact... but at least here the heat is somewhat cooler than in other places.

There are thin clouds hanging around in the sky so the sunlight is a little relaxed. It's probably due to the large slugs skill [Praying for Rain].

The ball rabbit seems exhausted from its fight against the slugs, and Nina should be considerably tired from trying to stay on my back during the travel. Although I do try to be careful, I still shake up and down while moving, riding comfortable is not something we have.

Normally, a dragon is not the kind to let people ride them as they walk.

Let's have a good rest as we're all tired, rather than to move around again.

When tomorrow comes, I will use the ball rabbits [Telepathy] skill and my [Human Transformation].

I should be able to talk to Nina better this time.

I gathered the long grass growing around the swamp and made a bed for Nina. Sleeping here still isn't great, but it should still be better than lying down on the sand.

When Nina lied down on the bed of grass, the ball rabbit moved to her side and tucked in closely beside her.

Nina was surprised and opened her eyes wide, but when she saw that it was the ball rabbit she laughed and held the ball rabbit tightly.

They get along quite well as if they are good friends.

Is there some way that those with beast ears can communicate with each other?

I confirm that Nina and the ball rabbit were sleeping, and put my belly on the ground. Although I keep my eyes closed and my mind asleep, I try not to interrupt my attention to the surroundings with [Presence Sense].

I must be ready to act in case of emergency. If a gigantic centipede approached, it is necessary to escape with full power.

Stay still and concentrate on making my body rest. Eventually I feel light on my eyelids and wake up.

The day came while I was resting, it's now morning.

I lightly poke my head with my tail and shake my head. Uummaah, my head feels dull now.

Well, after using [Presence Sense] I guess you wouldn't really feel like you had a good sleep. Since I have a body of a dragon, it's tough so there is no need to, but I occasionally want to sleep soundly.

I at least want to have a sleeping day, where I sleep all day one day out of the week.

In that respect, my life in the forest was nice.

If I was sleepy I could sleep well because there was not an enemy that could surprise me near the bed, and I did not feel thirsty because there was a beautiful lake where I could walk to, and there was also the occasional grey wolf I could have as a meal, so I was not worried.

Well, it can't be helped if I grumble from time to time.

Okay I have to raise my Lv to the point where large centipedes turn around. That would make it much easier to find water and food, and it make me feel more relaxed so I could sleep properly.

Let's think positive.

Now then, the ball rabbits MP should be recovered by now, that way we can experiment to see if whether it can use [Telepathy] to communicate with Nina... actually, where is the ball rabbit.

Last night it was supposed to be sleeping with Nina, but there was only Nina on the grass bed.

What kind of dream are you having that you're cheeks are loose while letting out "suu, nya....."

It's a nice sleeping face.

When I think of her dreaming about her home town, I remember her circumstance and start to feel a bit miserable.

"Thank you very much nya, Mr. Dragon. From what to what... sorry..."

...you, if you say something like that, I feel somewhat embarrassed.....

No, to say that with such a happy face...

I will say thank you when you awake, although I scare you often. Im weak to such a thing because from the beginning a dragon lives with hatred directed from and towards the people.

Where are you, ball rabbit.

Where did you disappear to.

Was it that Nina's sleeping posture was unexpectedly bad so you eventually dug out a hole and went in?

Focusing on [Presence Sense] I scan around. There in the distance I could see that the ball rabbit is moving while dragging its ears towards the swamp.

What is that guy doing.

No way, are you going back to drink that gutter swamp?

Actually with the ball rabbits belly it's not wrong to suspect it would do that when it's hungry.

I chase after the ball rabbit and get closer to the swamp.

“Pefuu!”

When the ball rabbit approaches the edge of the gutter swamp, it raises its voice while extending its ears. Blue light began to leak out of the ball rabbits body, and then it went into the gutter swamp.

When the blue light touches the surface of the water, it ripples and spreads and the turbidity of the swamp also spreads accordingly.

What, was the dirty swamp cleaned?

At the end of the swamp, it changed to clean water, although it was only a part of it.

The ball rabbit looked back at me and cried out proudly, “pefu!”, I began to drink the water by skimming my mouth across the surface of the water. Hey ball rabbit, since when were you able to do something like this.

Please tell me.

Oh, maybe its that!

It’s the skill [Clean] that you acquired when you evolved into the peach ball rabbit!

It is clear that it was a skill with a water purification function. It did not have the MP yesterday.

This is good fortune, how lucky.

I have to immediately wake up Nina and tell her this as well.

Nina didn’t say anything but she should be pretty thirsty. I’m overjoyed knowing about this.

I instantly return to the grass bed and raise my voice to wake Nina with a “Gurua!”

“unyaaa!”

Nina was surprised at my voice, she woke up in a hurry and raised her body as if warming up.

I was wondering if she was okay with waking up, but then I suddenly woke her up with a roar of a dragon suddenly.

I am confident that my heart will stop if I were a human.

I guess she was tired and it would have been better if she slept until she got up naturally.

The tension has risen, and it feels like it's getting worse.

"a, to, toto, nya, good morning Mr. Dragon..... what did you need, to come over like that?"

"Guruu....."

Uah, I need to quickly apologize.....

Chapter 131

Nina's Destination

I take Nina and place her near the ball rabbit.

“nya... just right here, the water is beautiful...”

Nina looked at the portion of the water that was purified by the ball rabbit with rounded eyes.

“pefu!”

The ball rabbit proudly puffs its chest.

No, well I don't really know if you are puffing your chest or belly since you're round, but I guess it doesn't matter.

After she finished drinking the water, Nina had a much better complexion. I am also pretty thirsty, but only a little bit.

I bend down by Nina's side and stretch out my neck to get a mouthful of water like a vacuum.

Its Delicious.

Even though it should only be regular water, probably since I was thirsty, it had a tinge of sweetness.

While I was absorbed in drinking the water, I suddenly feel something sticking to my tooth. As I was wondering what it was, I soon figured out its identity as sludge falls out of my mouth.

The ball rabbit was only able to purify a portion of it. So of course if you continuously drink from it it would disappear, and if the water runs out, the muddy portion will start being sucked up.

I was only able to think up to here as I started coughing and spitting out sludge and water.

Yuck! It's in my mouth, this is horrible!

The inside of my throat is stinky and it feels gritty!

What entered my mouth just now, was it the leftovers from the slugs?

Now that I think about it, I threw some in here not to long ago!

I don't want to remember! Why did I notice!

I'm finally able to calm down after spitting it all out. I want to remove this bad taste.

Even sea water will be better at this point. Though I wonder about the salt content. But since I have a dragon's body it should be okay since its stronger. Hmm, I wonder if I have any tolerance to salinity or fat as it would be good for my health.

Ah, suddenly I no longer feel thirsty. When I took a glance to the side I saw the ball rabbit glaring at me stretching its ears and trembling as if angry.

It's completely mad.

"Pefupefu!"

Ah, my bad my bad.

I did not mean to drink everything. I was thirsty, only a little bit... but I guess my brakes didn't work when I thought about surviving off of the clean water.

"Pefuu!"

As usual, it strikes my feet with its ears. Are you planning to raise the skill level of wild whip dance?

It started to smart a bit. I shouldn't have received any damage but I can still feel it through my scales.

It's probably because the ball rabbit is already a D rank monster. Having said that, if

you evolve once more, will you become Little Rock Dragon class? When I think about a Little Rock Dragon class whipping me, I feel as if I could die.

Well, for now there is something that should be given priority over water.

Once the water incident has been forgotten, I want to experiment with using [Telepathy] to communicate with Nina.

“Garua”

I bark a little and call out to the ball rabbit. I need the ball rabbit to calm its mood for now so we could focus on using [Telepathy].

But the ball rabbit inflates their cheeks and puffs up its face. I know it was bad! I will make something delicious later.

「slug, delicious」

The ball rabbits thought suddenly comes into my head.

It was eating it as if it was delicious wasn't it. But isn't that just you being hungry?

I understand, I will make something delicious!

Now can you please use [Telepathy]! Lets leave the clean water business aside!

The ball rabbit looks at me with glaring eyes while diverting its face. Seems like I caught its attention, I just need to give it a final push.

Oh, how about salt seasoned grilled camel meat?

I feel like the fatty texture of the hump meat will taste great with some salt.

Huh? its reaction wasn't to promising. With [Telepathy] you can send words over rather than say them, so is there a way to send over images?

I picture dividing a camel and sprinkling some salt on it. Then I imagine biting into the cooked camel and chewing.

“pefu! pefu!”

The ball rabbit bounces and approaches me.

You bought it.

Alright, this guy is simple.

I asked the ball rabbit to ask Nina where she wanted to go. If I don't know this then I don't know how to proceed from here.

".....pefu"

The ball rabbit hangs its ears down with force and then inflates its cheeks. It glances at Nina and then quickly returns its eyes to me.

"pefu! pefu!"

The ball rabbit really doesn't like the idea of parting with Nina.

It can't be helped.

My [Dragon Scale Powder] is poisonous to Nina.

I don't know how long she could last.

If strange effects start to show up without properly preparing then it's likely that Nina will be too weak to even leave the desert.

The ball rabbit looks at Nina and their eye sights meet.

"Nya... hey, ball?"

Nina picks up the ball rabbit and stares at it from close up. Only few words were said at first but now they are just staring at each other. Ah, [Telepathy].

After a while they finally finished talking, and Nina gently raised her face towards me.

"I, don't know where I should go..."

Nina says in a hoarse voice as it trails off like being carried off in the wind with her face turned down.

Well... this is.

Its obvious even from the case with the centipede that things were pretty bad in that wall surrounded city, and it seems that even if she had a home, due to certain circumstances she was sold away. That's one assumption but it's still a difficult pattern.

In the first place, I'm not familiar with the land around here. I also can't afford to travel slowly with the three of us looking for a suitable place somewhere. Although I still think that it will be better to take her back to that wall surrounded city, but that's really only the last resort.

"Oh, wait, Mr. Dragon! Is it okay... if I stay by your side?"

Nina closed her mouth and interrupts herself while looking at me with uneasy eyes.

I would rather do that, but I don't know when the negative effects of [Dragon Scales] will start taking place. I cannot bear Nina's eyes and unintentionally divert my eyes.

"I, I'm sorry nya... for being annoying. Even though I can't do anything, and just eating meals..."

Nina begins feeling smaller and smaller.

The ball rabbit reaches out its ears and gently wipes Nina's eyes. The ball rabbit then turns around in Nina's arms and gazes at me with quivering eyes.

That, I don't know what I can do when you stare at me with such eyes!

If you have [Telepathy] then you should know what I'm thinking!

I could see the tears welling up in Nina and the ball rabbit, but I still have to do it. For now, I could only try my hand at searching for a village somewhere... Huh?

I get a bad feeling and I focus on [Presence Sense].

I feel several signs from the other side of the desert. I can't see the figure yet, but there is no doubt that something is getting closer to us. I don't know the difference in stats from me since they are still far away, but using [Presence Sense] I could tell that it's not a small fish. Its speed is also almost equal to the huge centipede.

Why, why are you running to this place?

Maybe because of the slugs rain clouds that are still in the sky they came looking for water?

Chapter 132

Soldiers of Haranae

Multiple signs are definitely approaching our direction. Should I wait until I can see the opponents status or should I escape now with Nina and the ball rabbit with [Roll]?

If I run away now, it doesn't necessarily mean that I won't run into them again. If it's going to be running through the desert all the time with such a speed, then there is a high chance of meeting again in the future. Maybe since I was able to discover it ahead of time I should scout out information about it from a safe distance?

Ah, I don't know, but I could run away if I notice anything wrong. There's also no guarantee that this is the other sides full speed, so should I run as soon as possible.

I can't imagine that the Centipede is grueling over this place, and as for my expectation, I think that there's a high possibility that it's not a strong opponent but it's just that they specialized in speed. From the signs, I don't think that it is that big and it doesn't have much power.

At most it's probably a C rank.

For the time being I'll let the ball rabbit and Nina know.

"gurua!"

Crying in a low voice, I warn them to remain vigilant. They both look at me with their head to the side after looking at me.

Anyway, should I hide Nina and the ball rabbit in my mouth right now? Even if a fight were to occur, then it would greatly reduce the risk by minimizing the targets. There is a chance that they have a long range attack like the centipedes beam so I need to be ready to quickly protect them.

I need to use [Roll] to escape, I won't be able to run with them on my back.

I open my mouth wide and extend my tongue.

Hey, come on, get on.

Nina looks at my open mouth and stares at the ball rabbit.

That reminds me, Nina doesn't remember being carried in my mouth since she was unconscious.

Look, come on ball rabbit jump in. Show her an example.

"pefu! pefuu!"

The ball rabbit shakes its head in protest. Stop being selfish your life is in danger. You can wash it away at the sea later.

「no way! no way!」

It rejects to the point of using its skill.

If the opponent specializes in speed then I can't run away unless I use [Roll]!

Please understand!

I'm not doing this to harass you!

What? Do you really think my mouth is that dirty?

No, well, I also don't think its that nice either.

The ball rabbit digs a hole with its ears, jumps in and buries itself. All of this was done in only 3 seconds.

Hey, wait a second! Come out!

I'm not playing!

Do you really think it's that disgusting!

Shit, the other side is close. It will be here soon.

I turn my eyes towards the other side of the hill. It will show itself soon.

If you listen carefully you can hear a lot of footsteps mixed with the wind.

It was a horse that jumped out.

Actually, it's not just a horse.

Its physique is much better than the horse I know, especially its long legs. It seemed close to the kind of horse that was pulling the carriage which Nina was riding.

That horse was oddly better built.

A human is on the horse.

A turban carved with a mark was wrapped on their head, and from the gap of the mantle covering their body, I could see that he was wearing protective gear inside.

One person, two people, three people... a total of eight men on horses appear. Even after finding me the men don't slow down.

The second man from the front had lowered the golden tool like binoculars from his neck. Perhaps, they knew in advance that I was here. I don't think they were looking for water, but rather aiming for me from the beginning.

Even if they are this close, I could shake them off going full speed with [Roll].

"No way, I didn't think it was true!"

"Don't get too close! Take it out with your bows!"

"Hey, there is a human!" "Well it's just a beastman, so it doesn't matter, kill them if they get in the way!"

Hearing the voices of the men, Nina puts her body to me uneasily. The trembling is transmitted through the scales.

These guys, are they soldiers from that walled city?

Although the direction they came from is vague... it does feel that they came from there.

I've been thinking that it would be nice to consult Nina when we met with humans... but that's impossible right now.

With all this hostility and murderous expressions, there is absolutely no room for negotiations. As expected, not even using [Human Transformation] will keep them from attacking.

It's time to withdraw.

"Gurua!"

Hey, come out ball rabbit!

We need to run away with [Roll]!

Those guys aren't very decent!

In response to my call, the sandy mountain slightly shakes.

Do you hate it that much!

Hey, we really need to leave!

"Are we really going to do it Captain? I have never heard of fighting a medium-sized dragon with such a small group of people! Only gathering information and reporting..."

"There will be a time when you will be glad that you participated in wounding and killing a dragon of this size. Just move forward, rather than worrying about getting injured you'd better watch out for it trying to fly or escape, target its eyes and mouth!"

Yes, lets try to escape by flying. I won't use roll, so come out. I won't throw you in my mouth, so let's get out of here already!

I will pry you out.

Even in this close distance... it will be easier to repel them if I take a distance.

Or should I think of how to move after I have checked their status?

Even so it may be better to escape with Nina first and then come back to collect the ball rabbit later.

Obviously they are targeting me.

I glare at the man holding the spear at the top. Even with a simple look I could tell that they had a skinhead even from the top of the turban. This guy seems to be the most powerful person, as he is the only one holding a melee weapon while directing those around with their bows.

His facial expressions are full of confidence the horse is also the biggest and there are a lot of decorations for the harness.

[Hagen Baumann]

Race: Earth Huma

State: Normal

Lv: 22/45

HP: 82/82

MP: 68/68

Attack: 97+26

Defense: 63+24

Mana: 47

Speed: 48

Equipment:

Hand: [Haranae Soldier Spear: C]

Body: [Haranae Soldier Breastplate: C]

Characteristic Skill:

[Gurisha Language: Lv5] [Swordsmanship: Lv4]

[Bulls-Eye: Lv2] [Rage: Lv2]

Resistant Skill:

[Magic Resistance: Lv2] [Confusion Resistance: Lv2]

Normal Skill:

[Shock Wave: Lv3] [Clay: Lv3]

Title Skill:

[Soldier of Haranae: Lv3]

He's totally weaker than the large slug. Even that guy had nearly 200 attack power.

Its at most at the level of a D+ rank monster. Certainly, if you have eight of them against the Little Rock Dragon, then you will be able to do something. It will be problematic dealing with the earth tremor, and then again it is uncertain whether they could pierce it in the first place.

I'm sorry, but even I had about 100 ATK and still barely managed to give it some damage.

I might as well watch out for the horses rather than those on top of them.

Lets threaten them lightly and let them go home.

Chapter 133

One to Eight

“This good? I will go around him to his back, stay outside the range of its dragon breath! Fire arrows at it in the meantime!”

The Hagen guy with the spear shouts out to the rest of his comrades.

I’m sorry.

If you shout your orders that loudly it’s a bit... because I can understand them.

Its troubling, but I will only pretend to attack as you said just to be cautious.

As Hagen declared, he made the horse jump left before entering attack range. Then he made his way to the back of my tail to surround me.

“Run Maria! Let’s play with that slow-footed dragon!”

I was wondering who that was for a moment, surely that horse is named Maria. The black large horse Maria responds to his wishes and accelerates at once.

I tilt my body to extend my arms and push my nails into the tail of Maria who tried to run through the left side and fix it to the ground like a nail. The tail stretches tightly and Maria stops suddenly.

“Hihiin!”

Maria nights with a shrill voice.

Hagen was mightily thrown off in accordance with the law of inertia and flew away in a beautiful parabola.

Hagen’s scream is interrupted by a collision sound with the ground.

Death... he shouldn’t have died, his HP was close to 100.

Isn't he fine?

[Hagen Baumann]

Race: Earth Huma

State: Bloodshed

Lv: 22/45

HP: 32/82

MP: 68/68

Alright he's alive.

He's pretty solid.

I guess it's okay to leave him there.

When I pull my nail out of the ground, Maria is released running at full power.

"Hey, Mari... a, Hey hey..."

Hagen stretched out his hand recklessly, groaning.

All of this took place in full view of the other seven.

When they looked at Hagen, one of them cried out and ran away. The other six scold the man who ran away, and glanced at each other, then return their gaze towards me, setting up their respective weapons.

Four people hold a bow and two of them pull out a sword, the two with a sword jump forward and split to the left and right.

I'm worried they will hit Nina. They may very well aim at Nina to get a chance at me.

"What is that beast?"

"Evil plague dragons have been known to eat humans alive, at least that's what I've heard in poems in my expeditions to other villages."

Two men holding a bow talk about something disturbing while staring at me. Wait a

minute my reputation will be tremendously damaged.

Well, I guess it can't be helped since I'm a dragon. No, wait, won't the possibility of them aiming for Nina decrease because of this? But somehow i'm not feeling convinced.

I flick the arrows one by one with my nails. Maybe believing that my hands were preoccupied at the moment as an opportunity, the two who were divided on the left and right come closer with a dash.

I move my tail around and tie down the horse's feet where the two were riding on top of.

"Gaa!" "Uwaa!"

The scream of the falling men was unexpectedly loud, and I was taken aback for a moment. In a hurry I returned my head back around but the arrow that was launched at my blind spot came just before my leg.

I blundered.

Since its already this close I can't avoid it.

The tip of the arrow reflects the light of the sun. Is it wet with something black? It can't be a drink or paint. There's no doubt that it's poison.

I guess they really did come searching for me all the the way out here. They probably heard about a dragon being seen in the desert from the owner of that carriage that was carrying Nina.

I had been confident that their status was too low for me, but have you prepared a special poison that could even kill a dragon?

I had forgotten that a human's true nature was being skillful, somewhere, I might have been careless. I should have been more careful because it was a human. It is a race that makes cities using wisdom, ingenuity and technology in this desert full of demons. Even though they should have proper measures against those demons.

The arrow hits my foot..... stabbing, and it fell directly to the ground as is.

What, there is not even a hint of injury...

Even though I did not prevent it with my nail. If it was the needle camels needle, it would have penetrated normally. But it's better that I don't have to pull out the arrows.

The four people in the front stopped their movement staring at the arrow shocked. There is no expression on their face. This is a chance to make them go home if I threaten them now.

“Guuruwaaaaaa!”

I turned to face the sky and used [Roar].

The bow dropped out of the hands of one of the four who set up the poison, and he turned around running.

Alright, with this they should retreat soon.

“””uwaaaa!”””

The remaining three shouted and shot without aiming. Hey, stop it, if you hit Nina I will get angry with you.

「Begone...」

Thoughts suddenly come into my head.

Is this [Telepathy]?

I thought that it was directed at me, but it looks like the other three also heard [Telepathy], when they received it they stopped their hands from shooting while staring fiercely at my face and grinding their teeth.

No, this isn't me.

What, is there a demon here or something?

「Let's not continue alright? Or I will tear you apart like a piece of cloth from the arms and legs, and tear out your intestines and slurp them up」

Immediately afterwards, the three people turn around and left as they cried out and screamed.

No, it actually looks like the horses ran away before the riders could think.

Their positions collapsed and now their clinging awkwardly onto the horses, is that really okay?

The two who had fallen over besides me leapt on their horse and ran away.

Hagen's beloved Maria fled and ran away earlier. I think that it's quite a distance until they could reach the walled city... but good luck.

I pray that he join with Maria soon, though I'm the one who separated them.

The sandy mountain at my feet collapses and the ball rabbit looks out.

"Pefu!"

...You, have been active today with [Telepathy].

No, I guess I should be proud of this fact... but I somehow have a complicated feeling.

Sure I was saved but... don't you think that the strange rumors will increase?

[Title Skill [Spirit Relief] Lv increased from 6 to 7]

Have I been overlooking [Spirit Relief]...

I think right now, my highest level in a skill is [Spirit Relief] right?

[Spirit Relief: Lv7]... Lv7 only in this, the next highest is [Path of Evil: Lv6]?

I don't want it to go up, but looks like it can't be helped as long as I keep living.

Besides [Roll: Lv6], and [Loneliness Resistance: Lv6]... after that, it's all Lv 5's?

So in the next evolution, I'm either going to become a rolling dragon or a lonely dragon?

Chapter 134

A Brief Rest

The men's figures disappear over the hill. That Hagen guy is running by foot, will he really be okay? After all, his favorite horse Maria never came back. At least the other soldiers managed to stay on while the horses ran away at full speed. They were about 1.3 times faster than they came.

It's my fault... no not really.

It was legitimate self defense, it's not even on the scale of excessive defense.

Geez, they let the huge centipede alone, and yet why did they come hunting for me?

Well, I'm glad that they aren't very strong.

A "Gufu..." leaks out as I sigh in relief.

Nina's shoulders tremble from hearing my groan. I want to become a human soon. Urgently.

The ball rabbit crawls out from the ground and shakes its body dropping sand.

"pefuu..."

The ball rabbit let out a relieved sigh just as I did. Nina lets out a small laugh and lifts up the ball rabbit as it narrows its eyes.

Humans have a tendency to do such things, does it have to do with appearance...?

It reminds of the time when I was a baby dragon and I met Miria making me feel sentimental.

Maybe because my physique has changed so much it feels like it was something long ago.

I wonder what you're doing right now black lizard and orangutans? I guess they are still making pots and hanging meat out to dry.

I hope they weren't done in by other monsters.

While I was thinking, the ball rabbit decided to cleanse a part of the sludge swamp pool again, so I decided to head over.

This time ill made sure I keep my pace this so that I don't spit any of it out. I have reflected on my actions.

The same as before, a blue light is emitted from the ball rabbit and it goes into the sludge swamp turning it transparent. Its unbelievable no matter how many times I see it.

A part of the swamp turns into a beautiful lake. Just by watching it you could tell that the sludge is slowly disappearing, and we'll be able to drink soon.

The ball rabbit repels off the ground with its ears and jumps into the water. After sinking for a moment it immediately comes up to float.

What is it doing, is it bathing?

When I think about it, the last time I washed was in the sea covering myself with seawater. It would be better to wash myself properly with this beautiful water.

I guess I should go wash my body. I've been treated as unclean recently and that's no good, although I don't personally think I smell.

That reminds me, I've heard that you get used to your own body odor so you can't really tell if you smell.

My anxiety is getting worse.

"Gurua"

Hey ball rabbit, do you mind if I wash my body as well?

"....."

It kept silent while staring at me with half closed eyes. That reaction, I feel pretty hurt.

Its looking at me as if I'm a dad that just asked if he could join them in the bath.

...Well if I entered then the effects of [Dragon Scales] could spread in the lake.

Won't it be alright if I went in last?

Ah, maybe I could use [Human Transformation] to wash myself.

After Nina looked at the ball rabbit, she sniffed her own body and narrowed her eyes a little.

That's right, Nina was thrust into my mouth while escaping from that centipede, and she hasn't washed since then. At that time Nina had fainted and from her perspective she's probably thinking, "I thought that I was going to be killed by that huge centipede, and next thing I know my body smelled like a dragon."

Do I really smell after all? I really didn't think much of it, but I guess I really can't tell my my own smell after all.

Looking at Nina's state, the floating ball rabbit invites Nina to the lake with its ears.

Its ears are dexterous as usual.

"pefupefu!"

"Ah, Thank you ball"

Nina's expression shines as she reaches for her clothes.

The clothes she is wearing is made up of roughly sewn clothes, and the other beastmen on the carriage were wearing something similar.

As it is, it looks similar to a one piece. There is also one button making it look like it's lacking.

Nina unfastened the button on her clothes and reveals her white shoulders. As I was thinking that she has delicate and beautiful skin, I returned to myself.

“Guruuwaa!”

It was rude of me, but I used a roar similar to the one I used on the soldiers.

“What, whats wrong?”

“pefu?”

Stop!

I’m a man!

Because I have the mind of a man!

It wasn’t through [Telepathy], but Nina suddenly understood the situation and her face and ears were dyed in red.

“Ninyaa!?”

She hurriedly grasped the edges of her clothes and hugged them tight.

“I I, I beg your pardon”

I quickly turn away and head to the opposite end of the lake and lie down.

Ah, that scared me for a moment. For a second there, she had forgotten that I was a former human. Things unintentionally got a little heated up there. Even I forget sometimes. When Nina was unfastening her button, I didn’t think anything of it. I came back to my senses after Nina shouted and covered up.

After staying away for a while, I had wondered whether Nina has came out of the lake as I heard the sound of water. Then I heard the sound of dripping.

“Uh, I’m sorry, for troubling you that time nya. But now it’s safe”

Apparently, she also washed her clothes while she was at it. However, she is of course wearing the same ones as there is no change of clothes.

Well, this heat will dry it out while walking.

The sun is really strong in this desert. Also, since some time has passed since the large slug was killed, the rain clouds over the swamp have grown thin. They will disappear soon.

I'm thirsty.

I queue up with the ball rabbit and dip my mouth in the lake.

I will not tread on the same wheel track.

I look carefully and check the amount of clean water taking care not to drink any sludge. After collecting it in my mouth, I raise my face out from the lake.

I thought about swallowing the water as is but then I suddenly remembered how the ball rabbit had refused to enter my mouth earlier.

Do I really have bad breath? Perhaps it would be better if I cleaned out my mouth. If I do it well enough, then maybe I will be able to move around while the ball rabbit and Nina are inside my mouth.

That is the best way to flee from the enemy.

I look up at the sky and gargle the water in my mouth. It's my first gargle since being in this world.

Good, good, I feel as if the dirt and pieces of flesh that were stuck on my tongue and fangs are coming off.

I lower my head and spit out water into the lake.

Ah, I feel refreshed.

For now on I will be ready to flee in an emergency, with Nina and the ball rabbit in my mouth using [Roll]!

"bebuu!"

The ball rabbit who was drinking water besides me quickly spits it out.

Oh, what are you doing? Gargling?

A few seconds later, I look to the lake.

The lake was now covered in a mysterious dirty yellow mucus.

“Pefuuuuu!!”

The ball rabbit brandishes its ears and starts attacking.

It hurts! Don’t aim for the same place over and over!

It was my fault! I’m sorry!

It’s because gargling is basically vomiting!

It’s a habit of my previous life! It wasn’t on purpose!

Chapter 135

Emotional Reunion

I place Nina, who was holding the ball rabbit, on my back and advance in the opposite direction the soldiers escaped.

It would only get complicated if we were to encounter humans.

Actually, I'm wondering if I should even be traveling with Nina. Frankly speaking, if the effects of [Dragon Scales] begins to appear, it won't be a funny matter.

When the time limit was coming to a close, I thought that it would be fine with that walled city... but I think that may be the worst place after seeing how those soldiers reacted towards Nina.

Well, even if I say so I don't really have another plan, since even the person herself said that she had no place to go. Even walking around and waiting for a proper place with the right conditions, is comparable to trying to find a ring dropped in the desert.

If I look for a river connected to the ocean, would I be able to get back to the forest I entrusted to the orangutans?

No, won't Miria and the village treat me badly if I do?

I won't be able to show my face after attacking the villagers and escaping, so I'll just have to put them near the village and let them go on by themselves. Perhaps this is the most realistic solution. However, until then, Nina will be exposed to [Dragon Scales]... and I have no idea how long it's been going.

Besides, I don't see a river anywhere.

Nina's physical strength will decrease if I move too quickly. If that happens, her immune system may fall and the progress of [Dragon Scales] may accelerate.

Ah, there's obstacles from every direction.

It might be better to borrow some of the soldiers baggage and look for a map or something. No, even if I caught one person, there will be various stories popping up of me. Since it would be better for me if their wasn't any strange grudges directed towards me, I won't move in that direction.

Well, it may just make it worse and confusing to try to force your opponent into talking... should I just find someone who isn't hostile?

If I walk around in this desert I may run into a soldier in a carriage or at least meet with someone... That's the only choice.

When the time limit comes to a close... I'm sorry, but that walled city would be the only place I could go. Next break I take I will have the ball rabbit use its full MP so that I could talk with Nina.

While walking, I could see a black horse running in the distance.

Oh, that looks like Hagen's beloved horse, Maria.

It seems that it did not return to its master in the end and just started wandering around.

Will you be able to return home safely to Hagen?

Unlike the large centipede, I'm not a sore loser who will chase you down.

When Maria noticed me, it ran away at full power.

I will stay away from the walled city... That one will not go home anymore. Since I will feel bad going the same way, change direction.

The scenery doesn't change after continuously walking. To that extent, it is too vast.

What made them build a town surrounded with a magic border and a wall in such a place. I wonder if there are oil fields or something.

Suddenly I felt a bad sign, I stop and look around.

The origin of the sign should be close, but I don't see any monsters that I should worry about.

The moment I thought that it was empty, the ground before me exploded and sand scattered. From the hypo-center, I saw a huge head with a figure that I knew.

“Gijijijijijijijijijii!”

An unpleasant cry that sounds like rubbing resonates all around.

Race: Giant Sand Centipede

State: Normal

Lv: 63/80

HP: 455/455

MP: 241/241

It came.

I came across a guy that I did not want to meet again.

Why are you meeting me so much? Do you like me?

Perhaps this huge centipede doesn't fit in this desert. It's the same individual.

Rather, why did you excavate such a large hole?

You should also dig me a den... Or did you do this thinking of me.

Let's enter into my escape position now.

Fleeing into the sky... is not an option.

Last time I was overlooked because there were other targets, also [Flight] won't be able to shake off that huge centipede. Just picturing the huge centipede firing off that beam makes it clear that I will run out of stamina and get cut before being able to land.

Then, the only way is to run away at maximum speed with [Roll].

I lightly jump and flick Nina and the ball rabbit into the air.

“Pefu!?” “hinyaa!?”

I turn my face up and catch them with my mouth.

Just like that I kick the ground and jump forward and to the side, and change to [Roll] mid air.

I can hear the ball rabbit cry in protest from my mouth, but forgive me as right now it's an emergency.

I don't want to lose you.

So just wash your body after.

There are no obstacles anywhere around as everything is sand. [Roll] is good for such a landscape.

It's the best in the desert.

[illegible]

.....I'd be great if he didn't do that thought.

Even though it looks like I got a head start on it. I don't know how long I have to run away until I've actually managed to run away.

As expected, I have to raise my level quickly.

Even if I can't defeat the huge centipede, I want to become strong enough to the point that it feels that there's no point in attacking me.

Even though I used a full power dash towards the horizon, even though it's a trauma, it shoots a long distance beam, as it grows suddenly from the ground, this is a seriously bad nightmare.

At any rate, I thought that maybe there will be a horse drawn carriage crossing the desert to distract the huge centipede.

Come on, someone.

This is almost suicidal.

When I slightly took a glimpse backwards, I saw the huge centipede staring at me while I was scattering sand around.

Saliva dripped out of its mouth and when it touched the ground, it made a sound as if it melted the sand.

Well, it's useless if it doesn't hit right?

Really, what is that guy's problem.

Isn't that at the level of being a biological weapon already?

Anyway, the distance between us is opening up quite nicely. It seems that it would be better to prepare for a long drawn out battle.

Oh wait! If Nina sticks around for too long her physical strength will weaken!

In this desert, slugs are ten times stronger than humans, and centipedes are 100 times stronger than the slugs.

Seriously, what's up with this desert.

Chapter 136

Sacrifice

While running from the huge centipede I could start to see the sea coming closer. Hmm, if I were to jump into the sea would the huge centipede chase after me? I wonder what kind of effects salt water has on an insect..... Well it's useless to think about this right now if I get killed instantly.

I slightly change my course after taking a quick peek to the back, so I could run parallel to the sea.

I should keep going a little further. I'm thankful that there is plenty of room for me to escape in case of emergency.

At the bend, I saw a monster in the distance.

Race: Motarikemeru

State: Normal

Lv: 7/31

HP: 74/74

MP: 48/63

What, Oh, is it the three-headed camel?

I consider the three headed camel to be a high quality food. It has plenty of taste and the meat is lean. Probably because I eat cactus all the time. Among all of the things that I've eaten, it was the most delicious, that's even including the forest.

Someday, I'd like to try it with Phi perris.

It's something that I would like to hunt, bake, grill, salt and eat deliciously, but unfortunately I can't afford that.

Should I deliberately avoid it and hurry ahead?

No, if I continue this way would I be able to change the centipedes target?

Even a huge centipede just wants some food, so it would appreciate prey it can easily hunt.

It's bad, but let's have the three headed camel become a sacrifice.

I line up to the three headed camel and continue running in a straight line towards it.

"nogue!?"

The three headed camel that noticed me had all three faces dyed in fear, and it tries to escape.

I'll be scared.

Especially if a large rigid rolling ball twice my size was coming straight at me like a fastball.

If I was a human, I'm sure that even if I escaped it would become a trauma. Maybe I would even scream and cry out every time I saw a marble.

But, at that speed it can't run away from me. Even if I wasn't rolling, id still be able to catch that three headed camel.

While being chased by the huge centipede, and going out of my way to chase after the three headed camel, the distance between the three headed camel is gradually reduced.

Don't feel bad, camel. This is just the way it works. That's the food chain pyramid.

Life is also sometimes regrettable.

"nogue... nogue..."

I tackle the back of the three headed camel lightly. Just enough for it to drop its speed, and it rises and spins backwards.

"nnobu!"

I feel that my hit breaks some of the three headed camels bones.

Sorry, really I'm sorry.

Without the purpose of eating, driving down monsters and killing them somehow makes me feel... guilty.

[28 experience points obtained] [Title Skill [Walking Egg: Lv-] activated, 28 bonus points obtained]

Ooh, it was in instant death?

Hitting a monster with [Roll] at maximum speed at this rank can kill them.

It seems that I could effectively level up if I were to run around targeting D ranked monsters.

I will take a look at the huge centipede to see if the strategy went well.

I saw a three headed camel flying towards the huge centipede.

Alright, that's good.

Lets calm down and see what happens.

"Gonbecha!"

Bruising and sticky sounds, ring out at the same time. The body of the three headed camel brilliantly gets hit clean by the body of the huge centipede. The body of the three headed camel which crashed into the huge centipede with its strong shell, couldn't endure the vigorous speed and exploded. The front legs, hind legs and three heads scattered around, and splash blood all about.

In contrast to how I thought it was going to turn out, the scene was to spectacular and my focus was nailed down behind me.

I'm sorry three headed camel.

I did not mean this.

As expected, it wasn't enough to damage the huge centipedes high defensive power, but it looks like it was enough to provoke the opponent.

“GiJiJiJiJiJiJiJiJiJiJiJiJiJi!”

The heated up huge centipede screeches loudly as it comes closer to me at a speed faster than before.

Why, how did this happen.

Any hope I had to settle this matter was now gone.

However, it's not all bad.

Since its now going faster than it was before, it has not considered the burden on their stamina now that it is rushing in anger.

It won't last for long, is what I'd like to think...

I don't slacken my pace and continue rolling at an appropriate speed.

According to my expectation the (Remember my name) sound that it cries out every now and then has gotten further and further away.

This is good.

If I continue at this pace, Nina will really be in danger. The ball rabbit... well, it looks tough, so it'll be fine.

The camels sacrifice was effective as a result.

Let's go back down this road later and cook... hold a service.

It will lighten the ball rabbits mood as well.

It will be pretty painful if you decide to stop using [Telepathy] and [Clean] after all.

The moment I felt relieved and relaxed a little bit, I felt a chill from the back.

This feeling, I remember.

Taking a quick glance back, I see a red light gathering in the mouth of the huge centipede.

It's here, the high powered and long range, nightmare centipedes beam [Heat Ray].

When I think about it, it slowed down before it shot off a beam the last time.

Should I have realized it when I stopped hearing its cry?

What do I do?

Last time I dealt with it with a sharp fall, but right now I'm running on the ground.

Is it avoidable on this plane?

If I escape into the air, I can increase the distance, but there's also the risk that I might just get killed instantly the moment I fall back to the ground. I have to manage to avoid it somehow on the ground.

To be honest it is pretty dangerous, but that's the only option.

I can escape from the huge centipede if I manage to overcome this next attack.

Please avoid it, me.

If I make a mistake here, the ball rabbit and Nina will also be eaten.

Chapter 137

Centipede Beam

“GiJiJiJiJii!”

A straight red light shoots out from the huge centipedes head.

It came, the centipedes beam finally came.

Be positive. I have to think positive!

It is a dilemma, but it should also be an opportunity.

Evade it without decelerating, and shake it off!

Concentrate, its over if I get hurt.

I won't die immediately if I do, but if it hinders [Roll], then I'll fall prey to the huge centipede.

Complete evasion, there is no other choice.

I move to the left a little.

A straight line of red light penetrates the place I was at just seconds before.

It continues on through the sand and raises smoke from where it hits.

It still doesn't end.

The straight line of red light moves along closer chasing after me uninterrupted. The hot air coils around me as if it was living, making me feel the heat through my scales.

Is this a sense of intimidation.

My sense of meeting death increases and so does my speed as a result, making me

move further to the left to escape from the [Heat Ray].

The red light quickly moves over, following me.

Oh, this is impossible.

As expected, I should fly.

The attack lasts for way too long. This is a cheat.

Fortunately, as it was passing through the ground or hills, I could jump and avoid the red light like a jumping rope.

I pass within inches over the [Heat Ray] under me.

It was regrettable.

After all, it is impossible to avoid the centipedes beam on a two dimensional plane. Being able to move in three dimensions on a three dimensional plane is required.

The [Heat Ray] rises towards me who was still in the air.

What? You're kidding!

Why has it not finished attacking yet!?

I guess I really need to pack my MP into avoiding this!

I already seriously, dislike huge centipedes!

If I was unlucky, I would have already been killed three times!

I slightly stretch out my wing to the side while rolling to deviate my center of gravity and barely manage to avoid it.

The [Heat Ray] passes right beside me from the bottom up. Even though I wasn't hit, my scales were hot and got a little burnt.

The fatigue also starts hitting my body, but my mental exhaustion is even worse off.

What the heck is with this monster beam.

The [Heat Ray] comes down diagonally above me, who just got to the ground. I sharply bend to the right while feeling death behind me.

Maybe my [Roll] got faster since I'm being chased.

[Normal Skill [Roll]'s Lv increased from 6 to 7] [Title Skill [Chicken Runner]'s Lv increased from 2 to 3]

Yeah!

Although the name of the title skill is completely bad, right now it's my salvation.

They decided to be merciful to me on the verge of hell.

I can visibly see an increase in my speed.

Even though I should be considerably far away from the huge centipedes body, the [Heat Ray] is still not finished.

I can't shake it.

It literally shoots through the surroundings at the speed of light. Since its specifically aiming at me, I barely managed to avoid it but if it were shooting recklessly then I surely would have been killed already.

The [Heat Ray] hits the ground just behind me. The sound of burning and smoke rises.

The other side of the food chain should be rather tough.

That's why its frantic right now as you will surpass this if you escape.

You can run away if you could last a few seconds.

If I manage to escape, I will someday be ranked AAA+++, then I'll exterminate all of the huge centipedes in the desert.

I'm trembling thinking and waiting for that time time to come!

The [Heat Ray]'s light starts to shake.

Finally, it seems that the time limit of the huge centipede has come.

However, now that the stream is not consistent it's difficult reading the movement.

I cannot afford to get hit after coming this far.

If I jump right at the small hill, and continue along a right angle, the [Heat Ray] should end by then.

Let's go.

I should be able to do it.

The moment I was getting ready to jump as I was climbing the hill, the [Heat Ray] sharply moved from left to right and scraped off my scales as if it was paper, along with an edge of my body.

Pain was emanating throughout my body.

It was no longer hot but, an acute pain of meat being scraped away.

"Gugu!"

I wanted to shout, but then I remembered that the ball rabbit and Nina were in my mouth and I somehow managed to close it.

But I could no longer keep using [Roll], as I was thrown to the ground with a crawling posture. Dragged by inertial force, my abdominal scales were being scraped away by friction with the sand.

My head hurts, my sight is dull. My senses aren't coming together.

After stopping, I move my neck and look behind me.

Ironically, it was just where the [Heat Ray] had stopped.

"GiJiJiJiJiJiJiJiJiJi!"

The ruler of the desert comes closer.

Having confirmed victory, its speed isn't that fast.

However, it was impossible to correct my posture and escape now.

Ah... this, I'm dead.

At the very least, I want Nina and the ball rabbit to escape.

I looked to the front to open my mouth, then I saw a large hole opened on the ground. The sand is hardened around the hole and its reddish brown.

I crawl on the ground and approach the large hole. Anyway, I had to flee the centipede.

It was a big hole that I approached without thinking, but the size was one size larger than I was. It seemed like the huge centipede was getting closer, but I could not move my legs like I wanted to.

I kick the ground and spread my wings, and jump into the big hole head first.

Without changing to [Roll] I go in as is.

Apparently it's some kind of underground passageway, the interior is also paved red-brown sand all around.

It is regrettable, but it's better paved than the cave I had.

I can use earth magic so I'm confident in my strength, but it looks considerably better here.

However, the location is too severe for a residence. It's in the middle of the desert.

Perhaps... are these ruins or something?

"GiJiJiJiJiJiJii!"

Following after me, the huge centipede sticks its head in. As it catches up to me it collides with my back and I'm blown away.

Hitting my head against the ceiling and falling back on my back, it was fortunate that this happened.

I was able to take a distance thanks from being blown away.

After all, the huge centipede seems to be unable move its legs properly in this aisle, stopping its movement behind me, as it desperately wiggles around.

“GiJii!” “GiJiJiJiJii!”

You are hitting the wall with all your strength but it doesn’t look like the wall will collapse.

Even if it looks like it could use its feet to attack, it doesn’t seem I need to worry about the walls being broken like that.

It might be possible to cut through it with your teeth, but when you’re facing that direction it’s impossible.

It would reach me if it were to shoot out [Heat Ray] in this narrow space, but it looks like it doesn’t have enough stamina.

I managed to run away but now I can’t get out.

My only hope is trying to find where this leads to.

Chapter 138

Angry Huge Centipede

I check the ground by lightly tapping it with my foot.

Yup, this is pretty hard. So much so, that the centipede won't be able to easily break it.

I open my mouth and release Nina and the ball rabbit, then slowly rise.

Although the ceiling is low enough that I'll have to lean forward a bit, it won't trouble me too much traveling through here.

Maybe because my body is heavier, recently I'm more comfortable with leaning forward anyway. It may be the default for quadruped walking after evolving. Or is this more like devolving?

Well anyway the lateral width is a little narrow, but just wide enough to change directions.

The ball rabbit who was upside down rolls itself over with its ears and gets up.

"pefu..."

It cheekily lets out a sound of resentment upon looking at me.

It couldn't be helped!

I covered you with my tongue as much as possible so that you won't be affected by the impact as much as possible, so was it really that bad? Why?

Well, when I think about it, the smell of my mouth may have gotten bad...

Nina is lying exhausted on the ground.

Although out of breath, there doesn't seem to be an immediate crises to her life in terms of status. After feeling some relief from that, I slowly look back.

The acid spit was a trap.

Since it probably thought that I would prevent it with my wings it used it to block my sight, pushed through the gap a bit and jumped in.

Although I fell on my back, I rounded and rolled backwards around the aisle and took a distance from the huge centipede. Because I could see that I was closing in on the ball rabbit I canceled [Roll] and braked with my tail so as not to run them over.

Dangerous, dangerous, if I hesitated there for even a moment, I would have been crushed by the huge centipede. Have you jumped in here fully huge centipede? But this time, this time its whole body has entered. You should have retired already, now you can't move at all with this.

Well, should I restart now? Since its now immobile, it's now the best time to defeat him, because we are now face to face I just have to hit it from the front. This is the only thing I can do based on the difference in status.

For now, ill try to use [Kamaitachi] outside of the huge centipedes range.

Flapping my wings, I start sending out magic power into the air. Due to the narrowness of this aisle, my wings rub against the walls.

The wind blades hit the huge centipedes face, but its doesn't seem like it's doing any damage. As expected, if I try doing it this way then my MP will run out before I can do anything.

If the huge centipede did not have automatic restoration I might have been able to manage, but with the way it is now there is no use thinking about it.

I give up and adjust the wind blade to a smaller size and aim for the front leg of the huge centipede. A shot is sent out, and a break appears on the foot, as body fluids seep out.

Oh, I can about it this way.

“GiJiJiJiJiJiJiJiJiJiJiJiJiJi!”

Its getting angry.

I continued to shoot two shots until one of the feet was cut and flew. However, there are a lot of legs, and from this position I can only aim at the ones in the front.

[Normal Skill [Kamaitachi]'s Lv increased from 2 to 3]

Oh yeah, it's here.

It's quite useful so I'd like to keep raising it.

The huge centipede bounces around with anger and hits its head on the ceiling and floor.

The passageway slightly shakes, but there is no sign of it breaking.

Hmm, it's sturdy. Who ever made it, id also like to make such a wonderful residence.

I thought that I should also cut off the foot on the opposite side, but it doesn't make senses to provoke it anymore.

As using [Kamaitachi] consumes quite a bit of MP every time, I can't keep sending them out wastefully.

Also, since the huge centipede is blocking one side already, I still have to walk through this unknown passageway.

I face my back towards the huge centipede and look ahead down the passageway... I was late in noticing because of the thick wall, but there is something about this place. Me being distracted by the huge centipede also didn't help though.

Chapter 139

Mysterious Underground Passage

“GiJiJii!” “GiJiJiJiJiJiJii!!”

I approached the ball rabbit with my mouth open while the huge centipede was crying behind me.

Look, it may be dangerous so get inside. But the ball rabbit shakes its head.

「Behind, walking」

You’d rather walk behind then be thrown back into my mouth?

...If that’s okay with you then. Fortunately the back was closed by the huge centipede, so I don’t need to worry about anything coming in. If I had them in my mouth then I will be unable to use any form of breath attacks, so this may be for the better.

Should I have the ball rabbit carry Nina?

“guuga!”

I lightly voice out and instruct the ball rabbit to carry Nina. I thought that it might alarm any monsters hidden in the passage, but it was a wasted concern as the huge centipede screeches. The other side is probably already well alerted.

I catch something moving beyond the corner of this passage with [Presence Sense]. But because of the thick walls the sign is weak, but there’s is definitely something moving towards here.

It’s hard to think that there are humans in the middle of such a desert.

Although, there could be ruins here, there is a high possibility that it was converted to a den for monsters.

The huge centipede which is the biggest threat in this desert is unable to pass through

here, so this is a good place for monsters to make their home.

The ball rabbit follows my instructions, lifts Nina and places her on his head with its dexterous ears. It tried to move forward but Nina's legs were dragged across the ground. That... I wonder if it can make due somehow.

Did the ball rabbit know what I was thinking, it jumps a little and shifts Nina up a little more with a "Pefuto". I guess it's dragging her head this time. The ball rabbit set Nina down and sucked in air as if taking a drink. For a moment the body of the ball rabbit was puffier, but after the sound of a gulp, the ball rabbit returned to its original shape as if nothing happened.

Err... This is, yeah.

I couldn't understand what happened for a second there so I didn't respond, but I know it didn't do that because it was hungry. I think it just imitated my mouth from the time I was carrying it. That reminds me that the ball rabbit had the skill [Internal Body Storage]. This is just making me more anxious.

"Pefu!"

Maybe due to my impolite thoughts the ball rabbit has bulging eyes and inflated cheeks. Oh, yeah, I'm sorry, I know it's safe... I know that you won't digest.

After checking that the huge centipede is still immobile in the back, I start to advance through the narrow passage. The ball rabbit follows behind me while dragging Nina.

Every step we take I feel signs of something approaching with [Presence Sense]. It doesn't seem to be that big. With that size, I hope it's not a terribly strong opponent. Being wary of this, I start walking along a little slower.

I wonder if they are also afraid of coming around the corner. Even I was avoiding going too fast so that I don't suddenly bump heads with whatever is coming, as I can't really tell what it is.

We share a mutual interest.

I go through the straight passageway and make a turn at the corner. There I saw two big worms at the end of the passage.

I thought that it was one big body, but I guess due to the thick walls, [Presence Sense] didn't work too well.

They were two sizes smaller than me and their whole body was bright red. The size ratio could roughly be estimated as a medium sized dog compared to a human. They had eight short legs and the space between their chest and abdomen was extremely constricted.

No, this is an ant.

When I was running through the desert using [Roll], I feel like I had seen it in the distance.

Race: Red Ogre Ant

State: Normal

Lv: 29/55

HP: 246/246

MP: 78/78

ATK: 213

DEF: 226

Mana: 48

Speed: 187

Rank: C

Characteristic Skill:

[Soil Attribute: Lv-] [Sociability: Lv-]

[Pheromone: Lv-] [Red Sand: Lv-]

Resistant Skill:

[Physical Resistance: Lv2]

Normal Skill:

[Bite: Lv4] [Dig: Lv6] [Clay: Lv2]

[Clay Gun: Lv3] [Self-Regeneration: Lv3]

Title Skill:

[Soldier Ant: Lv6]

These guys stats are unreasonably strong. Its attack and defense are fine, but its speed is stupidly high for being at C rank.

It's completely specialized in close combat. Although it may be several steps below me, it's still not alright with there being two of them.

Even a single one would be troublesome.

I don't see any skills that I should particularly watch out for, and I also hardly see any resistance skills. Just with their status alone however, and there being two of them, it makes it more troublesome than facing the large slug.

Besides, since the ball rabbit is behind me I have to be careful not to let either of them get by me.

I don't really want to fight them...

Maybe they aren't hostile?

Me and the two red ants stop with our faces facing each other.

"kucha, kucha!" "kucha! kucha!"

When the red ants saw me they let out a shrill voice. That noise, it's like they are rubbing their teeth together.

The huge centipede was the same. I'm sure now that I'm not very confident.

「Begone, I tell you」

The ball rabbit calls out from behind.

Go home, and don't look back.

You heard the centipedes cries, so isn't it already decided what we will do?

"Gurua"

Ball rabbit, please tell them that it's impossible because there's a huge centipede blocking the way.

I'll leave it to my translator to ask.

「You understand, begone, go die」

I see, did you just tell it to die?

There won't be any room for negotiations after this.

“Kucha!” “Kucha, kucha!”

Both red ants move towards me at the same time right after the ball rabbit finishes translating.

Ah dammit! Guess I have to this after all!

Chapter 140

Red Ant

The red ants are running to my left and right, and because of their speed they look like after images of each other. Since there is almost no difference in their stats it's due to their individual differences. One of them jumps and the other one tries to go through that gap created by the first.

I can understand what they're aiming for, but it's another thing altogether to be able to counter it. After all their speed stat isn't weak. I have to be careful of both of them and deal with them properly.

First let's perform a simulation in my head.

I need to visualize their attack pattern and try to find a way to evade their worst hit. Such a task could be daunting, but I must be able to fully evade their attack.

In the meantime, I wonder if [Scorching Breath] will do any damage. It's a good thing I had the other two out of my mouth. The range on it is long and wide, and in this narrow passage it will be difficult to avoid it.

The two red ants are enveloped in flames. However, it doesn't look like this will be the end. Considering these guys' stats, they should be quite lively.

I flap my wings and send out a few shots of [Kamaitachi]. The wind blades aiming for the red ants cut straight through the flames.

"Guu!"

A beautiful cut is made on the head of the red ant in the front and it stops moving. The one in the back went straight past its fallen comrade.

"Kucha!"

A few red sand bullets appear in the air as the red ant cries out and fires it straight towards me. Oh, I saw this in its status [Clay Gun].

Nostalgic. This is the same as the black lizard had. However the color of the sand bullets are red for some reason. It seems that it will hurt according to the color of the one shooting it.

I follow the red ants movement while blocking the sand bullets with my nails. The red ant who stopped moving behind also started moving again.

The cuts on its head have already been healed. This looks like [Self-Regeneration].

“Kucha!”

The red ant in the front kicks off the ground and jumps towards me with its mouth wide open. Did you turn into a meat bullet? This would have been easier outside, because this place is so narrow it's hard for me to move. Is frustrating, but it looks like it will be a fistfight from here on.

“Gurua!”

I swing my arm aiming at the ant in the air. I should be able to hit it.

The red ant arches their back in the air and my nails swing through the sky.

The red ant grabs my outstretched swinging arm. Would you look at that, it's wrapping around my scales. I lift my arm as is and bang the red ant onto the ceiling. The Red ant opens its mouth and falls to the ground.

I can't afford to relax. The other red ant is about to bite my abdomen. I guess he was aiming for the gap made when I raised my arm. But I already knew that its attack formation is to attack from the top and then the second one aims at the gap created through the bottom.

Don't think that such a simple strategy will get through!

I take a step back and kick the red ant who was aiming at my abdomen. I then attack the defenseless red ant still in the air with a [Dragon Punch] and make it launch some distance away. The red ant fixed its posture in the air and landed on its feet.

Its tougher than I thought. However I succeeded in gaining some distance. With this, I'll be able to deal with the other red ant until the other one comes back.

“Gurua!”

I roar while tracking down the other ant.

Where did you go?

The other red ant was retreating back towards the red ant that I managed to blow away. What? Did you finally realize the difference in power?

The two ants nod at each other after facing each other and come rushing towards me again.

...Oh, did you realize that you couldn't attack alone and that it would be better to act as a unit?

Surprisingly, the cranks in those guys heads turn I guess.

Nonetheless, if it's attacking at long distances, i'm better. Also, I can scrape away at their HP with [Kamaitachi] and [Scorching Breath].

The red ants plunge into the flames as is but they should have received some damage either way.

Although they do have [Clay Gun] as a long distance attack, since this is a narrow passage they can only shoot it from the front, which I can easily block with my nails.

The MP consumption for these was not very high for now, and their [Self Regeneration] can not be constantly used.

I should confirm the status of the red ants and see how much HP I'm chipping away.

Race: Red Ogre Ant

State: Normal

Lv: 29/55

HP: 132/246

MP: 21/78

Race: Red Ogre Ant

State: Normal

Lv: 27/55

HP: 86/239

MP: 56/75

Alright, they have been considerably shaved down.

This situation is getting better.

Let's make the first strike again with another [Scorching Breath].

I inhale and blow out a full flame towards the red ants. There is no room to escape and little chance to avoid, surely with this they will take considerable damage.

The two red ants feet stopped at the same time.

Where did your courage to jump straight in from before go? Is it because your HP is low?

Either way, even if you stop now it is unavoidable. If you really wanted to avoid it, you should have run away the moment I started to inhale.

With such a half-baked response, you will receive heavy damage.

My sight is covered in flames.

Just like before, I released [Kamaitachi] towards the flame.

With a clank, the wind blades that were sent into the flames sound out.

Hmm, what happened?

When the flames receded, a red wall of sand was blocking the passage. Did you make a wall with [Clay] to withstand the flames?

At the same time I was thinking so, the wall collapsed and a large amount of stone flew at me as they used [Clay Gun].

I'm taking on two attacks at the same time. Since the passage is narrow it can't be avoided, but I only have to block them in this case.

Despite desperately parrying it with both hands, I can't keep up with it and the rate they are coming gradually increases. I want to guard with my wings but that's the gap they are aiming for to rush me.

The ones that I couldn't parry with my nails head towards my body. I thrust my right shoulder forward and catch the thrown stone with that side of my body.

As if this was their signal, the two red ants jumped in at the same time.

Chapter 141

Ant Extermination

I withstand the pain I received from the stone pellets and pull back my shoulder to straighten my posture.

Don't be impatient, me.

Now, with the use of both [Clay] and [Clay Gun], the two red ants should have depleted most of their MP. There should also not be enough left for [Self Regeneration] either.

Right now it's balanced as a two on one, but if I were to crush one of them, then that would decide who wins and who loses.

"Kucha!" "Kucha!"

The red ants that were lined up started running and were divided like before. Even though the formation was dealt with the last time, they are coming at me the same way.

Do you really think something that was useless before would work this time? Or is this just the basic strategy for all red ants? If even one of them gets done in, then they have no measures they can take to cope with it as a decoy is necessary for it.

Anyway, if I press them for an answer now it will be awkward, especially if one of them gets taken out in the process and their formations become useless.

How are these ants rank C?

If it was it would be as if that Little Rock Dragon was split in two. Everything has to go through hell in this desert it seems.

I concentrate on the red ant in the front. For now taking out this guy is my first priority. I will win if I can defeat it.

I swing my tail sideways and strike the red ants face.

“Guji!”

The red ant stretched its mouth to the limit and clamped on my tail. Just as planned. Rather than hitting it with my tail, I was waiting for this to happen. That way I can keep a hold on it.

I lift my tail and hold the red ant in the air as I squeeze the neck and the middle part of its abdomen where its narrow.

“Gudya!”

The red ant isn’t able to endure the pain caused by my nails and loosens its hold on my tail. I did not let go and kept it still as I bit into its neck.

“Gujiya!” “Gujiyaa!”

The red ant groans and moves its feet while struggling.

It really is tough.

However, it should have received plenty of damage, I’ll kill it as it is.

Seen its comrade in a difficult situation, the other red ant comes rushing in. It rushed around to my left side and jumped onto my side.

This place is narrow so there was no way to avoid it. Even if I were to move backwards I had no way of avoiding it in the first place. If this were the usual circumstance I would have thrown away the red ant I was gripping and then focus on defending the attack from the second one.

However, if I did that this would never end.

I will have to just withstand a little damage. Even if the two begin to continually bite me, I will be fine as long as they do it recklessly.

It’s possible to bear it.

I ignore the second ant that comes at me from the side and attack the neck of the captured red ant again. My fangs splendidly bite into the neck of the red ant. I can tear it apart like this.

The second red ant seemed to be surprised that it was ignored that it stopped moving for a second. The eyes of the red ant that should be plain seemed strangely emotional, and it also seemed that it was asking me, "What, are you serious?"

"guu....."

It's painful, even though it's painful I still have plenty of HP. After finishing off the first red ant, I'll slowly beat down the second one and defeat it.

I grind my teeth to bear the pain. It's fortunate that my teeth are crunching into the body of the red ant. From where my fangs are piercing, a slimy transparent liquid flows out. It looks more like its leaking, after all the fluid is transparent.

Actually, since ants have spiracle joints, from which oxygen is taken in and delivered around the body, red blood cells aren't necessary. Therefore, the body fluid is a transparent color.

I don't remember where I heard it but I can vaguely recall it in my mind. I feel like I received a great lecture on it but... maybe one of my acquaintances liked insects.

I firmly clamp down onto the red ant I'm biting and grip the red ant with my claws.

Tear to shreds! Tear to shreds!

It's about time you die!

"Gujiyajia!"

The red ant lets out a scream as it flails around.

"aa....."

Its feet finally stop moving.

Yeah, I did it!

[432 experience points obtained] [Title Skill [Walking Egg: Lv-] activated, 432 bonus points received] [[Evil Plague Dragon]'s Lv increased from 36 to 39]

Yeah!

The amount of experience was amazing! Truly a C rank!

My max Lv is 75 so I'm already over halfway there.

Oh, it's not the time to be celebrating.

I still have to take care of the guy biting me on my belly. I drop the dead ant to the ground and pierce my nails into the back of the red ant biting my abdomen.

I aim at the gaps of its mouth and gripped it while I use [Roll] and turn three times before releasing the red ant launching it forward.

"Gujiyaa!"

The thrown red ant hits its back against the ceiling and falls on the floor. I use [Roll] again and mercilessly run over the red ants lying on the floor.

"Va!"

Letting out a short scream, the second red ant finally collapses.

[432 experience points obtained] [Title Skill [Walking Egg: Lv-] activated, 432 bonus point obtained] [[Evil Plague Dragon]'s Lv increased from 39 to 42]

I release [Roll] and get up.

Fuu... I managed to win, but the damage on my stomach is pretty rough.

[Characteristic Skill [Dragon Scales] Lv increased from 4 to 5]

Ah, that also went up.....

"Pefupefu!"

The ball rabbit came close and used [Rest] on my back.

It didn't work that well on my back as it was quite damaged, but the wounds on my belly started to heal quite nicely after the three rounds.

Thank you ball rabbit.

But please leave some MP for [Telepathy].

“Pefu!”

I’ll have the ball rabbit clean me up with [Clean] and then use recovery magic with [Rest]. After that, it could carry Nina using [Internal Storage]. I thought the ball rabbit was nothing but a snack at first, but it is surprisingly capable.

Chapter 142

Hell Hole

“gufuu...”

I let out a sigh while viewing the corpses of the two red ants that I rolled over. One of them had their neck coming apart and the other was oozing body fluids from all over their body. Although the ants themselves were pretty grotesque, their large corpses were also equally grotesque. Well, it's good that I already got pretty familiar with a monsters corpse.

Actually my level went up a good bit didn't it, I should check my status again.

[Irushia]

Race: Evil Plague Dragon

State: Normal

Lv: 42/75

HP: 172/339

MP: 193/232

ATK: 291

DEF: 222

Mana: 201

SPD: 185

Rank: B-

Characteristic Skill:

[Dragon Scale: Lv5] [Voice of God: Lv4] [Gurisha Language: Lv3]

[Flight: Lv5] [Dragon Scale Powder: Lv5] [Dark Attribute: Lv-]

[Evil Dragon: Lv-] [Auto HP Recovery: Lv3] [Presence Sense: Lv4]

Resistant Skill:

[Physical Resistance: Lv4] [Fall Resistance: Lv5] [Hunger Resistance: Lv4]

[Poison Resistance: Lv5] [Loneliness Resistance: Lv6] [Magic Resistance: Lv3]

[Dark Attribute Resistance: Lv3] [Fire Attribute Resistance: Lv2] [Fear Resistance:

Lv2]

[Oxygen Deficiency resistance: Lv3] [Paralysis Resistance: Lv2] [Illusion Resistance: Lv2]

Normal Skill:

[Roll: Lv7] [Status Check: Lv6] [Scorching Breath: Lv5]

[Whistle: Lv1] [Dragon Punch: Lv3] [Plague Breath: Lv3]

[Poison Fang: Lv3] [Paralysis Claw: Lv4] [Dragon Tail: Lv2]

[Roar: Lv2] [Star Fall: Lv2] [Nutcracker: Lv3]

[Human Transformation: Lv4] [Kamaitachi: Lv3] [Neck Breaker: Lv3]

Title skill:

[Son of the Dragon King: Lv-] [Walking Egg: Lv-] [Klutz: Lv4]

[Fool: 1] [Infighter: Lv4] [Pest Killer: Lv3]

[Liar: Lv2] [Evasion King: Lv2] [Spirit Relief: Lv7]

[Tiny Hero: Lv5] [Path of Evil: Lv6] [Disaster: Lv5]

[Chicken Runner: Lv3] [Chef: Lv4] [Mean King: Lv4]

[Guts: Lv2] [Big Eater(Giant Killing): Lv1] [Ceramic Craftsman: Lv4]

[Boss of the Crowd: Lv1] [Laplace's Interference Authority: Lv1]

Alright, my attack power is almost at 300 already. If I continue to grow this stat as I level up to maximum, I should be able to put up a good fight against that huge centipede. Actually after evolving and increasing my level a little bit, shouldn't I be able to destroy it one-sidedly?

I was humiliated on multiple occasions by it, so if I reach 350 attack points, I will be able to go against it, and I could take my revenge on it.

Maybe, well depending on the evolution choices, I could be ranked A next.

If it does go that way then I could fly while dragging the huge centipedes head against the ground.

The highest rank a monster could reach should be A right? The next evolution could possibly be the final one.

To begin with, isn't this based on the alphabet? In addition is there any humans ranked A in this world, it's already scary as it is if they were B like me, are the displays made

just for me?

[Characteristic Skill [Voice of God: Lv4] unable to explain]

.....I haven't heard from you.

Even though you never tell me what I want to know regardless of the level, it's like you only tell me something when I do something wrong.

I can advance through the passage now... but with that said, I'm afraid that something else will pop out.

The huge centipede is still rampaging in the back, so I don't even have a choice of going back.

I focus my eyes ahead.

From the passage ahead, I could feel multiple signs are coming. Ah, I don't want to have to kill all of you.

I guess this is a monsters den.

Since there is no light coming from the entrance, it will be completely dark as we go along. Even though a human can get accustomed to the lighting, I don't really want to be here for long. I think that I should lead them back here that way I can at least see the surroundings a bit more. The ones beyond this point will be accustomed to the darkness and most of them may have developed senses to be able to live as creatures in the dark.

I look back at the ball rabbit.

Two fireballs are floating around the ball rabbit.

It used its skill [Light].

Since it got dark, I wonder if it turned it on to be able to see. Originally, it looks like it's supposed to suit such a purpose instead of an actual attack considering the name.

"Gurua"

Could it be a little stronger?

“pefu”

The ball rabbit who understood my intention slightly nods.

The number of fireballs floating around increased to three, and their size grew a little.

This guy is growing steadily.

If it were to do it seriously it could probably put out more fireballs.

The ball rabbit's skills are seriously all-purpose. The residents of this world should protect the ball rabbit, cultivate it and level it up, then deploy it whenever you need one.

Or rather, would the country be destroyed due to a food shortage? Actually it shouldn't even be left alone, or it will probably eat the livestock and fields around the world.

In the end, it is also a harbinger of hell, how dreadful.

“.....pefu?”

The ball rabbit turns its eyes at me strangely.

I forgot that it could read my thoughts with its skill [Telepathy].

As long as I don't strongly think about it, I can change it or make it disappear.

I lightly shake my head and get rid of the thought.

Anyway, it's now a little brighter.

If it's like this then it's possible to continue on, but what should I do?

Fortunately it seems like it's a long straight passage, this way I will be able to see the number and nature of any opponents that may come through before they get too close.

Either way... I could tell with [Presence Sense] anyway.

I wonder how many opponents I have to defeat in order to get through this passage safely. If the opponent is a small fry then [Roll] will be enough to take care of them, but if I mistake its strength then I will run into a lot of trouble and I will be the one lynched instead.

First and foremost, I must observe my enemies.

While I was waiting, I saw red ants peek their heads from the corner of the straight aisle.

“Kucha”

More red ants!

I thought that there was just two, but it seems there were still more left.

Two red ants follow after the one in the front.

“Kucha” “Kucha, Kucha”

Hey, this time it's three of them.

Will I be able to get through this?

No, my level is higher than before, so I only have to believe that I will somehow.

There are no options to choose from. Prepare yourself, me.

Rather, those guys should be good experience.

Be happy ball rabbit, there is lots of food today.

I'll make a mountain of ant soy sauce soup I learned from having my previous world knowledge cheat. First of all I need to learn to make soy sauce.

Following the three ants, four more come out.

I wonder if they are aware that there are corpses beside me, because they are murmuring.

It is equivalent to seven Little Rock Dragons.

Even one is enough to trample a village, this is just overkill.

Those two must have tried to buy time for support to come.

“gu, guu.....”

I truly felt frightened, and unconsciously took a step back.

No, no, I can do this. I need to overcome this.

There must be some tactics I could use to make use of the narrowness of this passage.

Not just my skills, I need to consider the ball rabbits and Nina’s skills. Think about the red ants skills, what are their normal habits and nature, nature?

I might unexpectedly be able to find a way out of this. Should I ask the ball rabbit to negotiate?

If I give up now I will seriously die. Come on, think, think.

Is there anything I could use that could fall down?

If I target a fragile part of the wall...

If I look around carefully around this wall, it is all the same and it seems robust.

If I focus my eyes, I can see the wall is made of red soil from the ants clay skill. The amounts are different but the colors are nearly identical.

Maybe this aisle, these aren’t ruins but just an ant nest?

Following behind the seventh one, red ants spring out from further behind.

One, two... three... Wow, the row is unbroken. Ah, no the count is already good. I’m dead.

Chapter 143

Outnumbered

“kucha, kucha!” “kuchaa!” “kucha!”

“kuachi!” “kucha!” “kucha!” “kucha!”

The red ants are coming.

Calm down, calm down.

I won't survive if I panic.

There is a good chance that only two of them have a high level. Even so, there's so many of them that it doesn't really matter. I should check their status first before I start worrying, I may be able to get through this depending.

If everyone is around Lv 10, then I could run through them with [Roll] if I try my best.

The strong looking one stopped and the rest of the small fry gathered around it.

He seems capable.

I could tell that the group was working as one unit, and whatever the boss says is absolute. If it's going to be like that then their ability to coordinate is going to be perfect.

Race: Red Ogre	Ant Race: Red Ogre Ant
State: Normal	State: Normal
Lv: 25/55	Lv: 24/55
HP: 230/230	HP: 226/226
MP: 71/71	MP: 69/69

Race: Red Ogre Ant	Race: Red Ogre Ant
State: Normal	State: Normal
Lv: 25/55	Lv: 27/55
HP: 230/230	HP: 239/239
MP: 71/71	MP: 75/75

Race: Red Ogre Ant
State: Normal
Lv: 24/55
HP: 226/226
MP: 69/69

Alright, close enough!

That strong guy stayed behind as well!

Their average level is 2 lower than the ones before! Oh yeah!, with this I might be able to break through, and the two level difference is within the error margin! Although they will act differently this time, with so many of them this is trivial.

I take a look behind. I could see the ball rabbit wrinkling its eyebrows as its using [Telepathy] on the hordes of red ants.

The red ants are coming forward. Seems like they are ignoring it, but it doesn't really matter at this point.

I thrust my fangs against the wall. If the red ants made this wall using their clay skill, then I should be able to destroy it.

Even if my fangs are chipped it's a small matter.

I bit about five times before the last one was able to go through.

Useless, this wall is too damn hard. I could do it if I had a little more time but that's not something I can afford right now.

It's also questionable if we could even manage to escape if this passage collapsed. After all, it's not possible to go back the way we came, and if everything falls we'll be buried alive along with the rest of them.

...If the ball rabbit was alone would it be able to run away? If a small hole could be opened then the ball rabbit may be able to pass through it, and if it digs there won't be any danger in it collapsing. As long as it makes the hole big enough for it to move through then Nina will also be able to get through.

Is this the end? For it to end like this.

Living in such a dangerous place, I guess it would turn out this way. Rather, I should say that I did good surviving up till now based on how reckless I've been.

It's a pity that I wasn't able to properly turn into a human... which I once was, but soon I will just be a rotting corpse with no revives.

Although I'm not too certain, but I'm sure humans reflect like this when their life is flashing before their eyes.

If I'm at least able to save one rabbit and one human, then it would have been well worth my while.

Since I couldn't become a human, I somehow felt that having a human depend on me was enough. Ah, now I'm slightly scared.

"Guruaa!"

I roar while driving my fangs into the hole in the wall. Ah, my fangs seriously hurt, and my teeth aren't better off. I plunge my claws into the hole and pull to try spreading the crack further apart.

The ball rabbit should be able to escape with this much.

"guruu....."

I know it's bad but I'll be depending on the ball rabbit to take care of Nina. For me, she is the only human in this world with whom I'm associated with.

"pefu!" "pefu!"

The ball rabbit approaches me while crying.

"Guruwaaaa!"

I cried out loudly as I stopped the ball rabbit from coming closer. Then gazed at the empty hole on the wall telling it to head there.

“Guuooooooooo!”

I roar as loud as I could and rush into the ant horde with [Roll]. This will be my last [Roll].

I’m not worrying about the strain on my body or control, the only thing I will do is my best. It’s not possible to mow down that many of them, but I can at least buy some time.

“kucha!” “kuchaaaa!”

It looks like the ants thought I was cornered as I was able to go through some of them easily. Two of them were immediately sent flying, but I was stopped on my tracks by four of the ants in the back.

“kucha!” “kucha!” “kucha!”

“kucha!” “kucha!”

My body is being encased with red soil. They’re being thorough, as more of them gather and also start pouring red sand on me. They want to completely stop my movement.

But you will not get me this easily!

“Guruuooooooooo!”

I roar as I stand flailing my arms and legs. The clumps of red sand clinging to my body crumbles and scatters around. Good thing this was not as strong as what they used to build the passage walls.

Looking at my rage the red ants take a step back.

“Guruuooooooooo!”

I roar again.

“kucha!” “kuchaa!”

Although several red ants took a distance from me, they made sure to surround me to keep me from running.

I don't plan to run away, so surround me as much as you want.

I raise my arms and swing my claws around with all my strength to beat them down. The possibility of receiving a counter is high but I'm not really worried about damage at the moment.

“ku, kucha.....”

As a result from being frightened from my sudden attack the red ants weren't able to come up with a counter. The red ants in front were skewered with my claws. Were these ants low level? They stopped moving after one strike.

[384 experience points obtained] [Title Skill [Walking Egg: Lv-] activated, 384 bonus points obtained] [[Evil Plague Dragon]'s Lv increased from 42 to 44]

Anger arose in the surrounding red ants as their impatience could be easily read.

No matter how good this felt however, it won't be easy to escape from here. Especially now that I'm surrounded and they are more likely to jump in to stop me. If it were that easy to escape I wouldn't have had to struggle so much against the other two I fought before.

Chapter 144

The Great Escape

The tension rises all around.

The surrounding red ants slowly close in. This is becoming more of a disadvantage.

If my aim was to win then I wouldn't allow this type of situation, but right now I'm not worried about my life.

It actually makes it convenient for me if you move that slowly while coming closer.

"kuchaa!"

Looks like the red ants couldn't stand the tension. I hear the sound of ants kicking the ground behind me.

"Guruuoooooooo!"

I roar as I swing my arm around. I was able to land an attack on the two ants that jumped, although they didn't die they did fly pretty far.

Both of their bodies are lying on their backs curled. I wonder if they will recover with [Self Regeneration].

"kucha!" "kucha, kucha!"

The red ants who had been hardly moving were inspired by their comrades and began making noise. It feels like they are all ready to jump in as well. Even though it's lucky that they aren't that strong, I won't be able to handle them if they come in droves.

"kuchaaa!"

The biggest red ant loudly cried out.

Inspiration was not its purpose, more like provocation and restraint. It wasn't looking

towards me but towards the ceiling. The anxious ants immediately stopped in their tracks. Is this the red ants temporary boss? Its acting like their captain. It's probably ranked higher as well, like around B rank.

The surrounding red ants regained their composure and slowly closed in again. The enemy doesn't want to increase their loses it seems. Our feelings are mutual, as I also want the ball rabbit to escape. Mutual destruction is also not part of the plan.

I focused my sense towards the back of me. Not just to see just how many ants there were, but because I was worried about the ball rabbit being able to escape.

“pefupefu!”

Hey, why haven't you run away! You don't even look like you have any intention of running.

What are you doing!? What's the point in me buying time! Wheres Nina!?

「..... that's despicable」

The ball rabbit turns its head to the floor and lets out a hoarse statement using [Telepathy].

.....Hey, hey, if things continue like this then we'll all be annihilated!

Dammit!, I gotta think of something!

“kucha!”

That moment, a red ant went towards the ball rabbit.

The leader of the red ants turns towards it and lets out a “kuchha”. The red ant leader probably didn't want me to act until it had me completely surrounded. However the red ant did not stop.

The ball rabbit throws a fireball but the red ant didn't try to avoid it. The fireball disappears shortly after hitting the ant's body but there is no burn mark.

The ball rabbit is in danger.

I inhale and fill my lungs. The red ants reacted and stopped their approach. I spew out [Plague Breath] all around me and a stagnating miasma envelops the area.

“Kucha!?”

I aim at the gap while the red ants are confused and whip my tail around. I then push through the red ants and run towards the ball rabbit.

Just when the red ant launched towards the ball rabbit with its mouth wide open I bite its back.

“gucha!?”

While driving my fangs into its back, I lift it and throw it against the wall. The red ant hits its shoulder against the wall and falls to the floor, but it quickly revives with [Self Regeneration] and comes at me. The rest of the red ant hoard also come running at me.

With only two ants they are careful with attacking as they don't want to miss time their strikes, but if you're not alone then nothing scares you.

I swat down the red ants that jumped at me and put the ball rabbit in my mouth, then escape in the opposite direction from the hoard chasing after me. I know that it's a dead because there's a huge centipede blocking the entrance, but I can't stop now.

I may as well raise the skill level of [Plague Breath]. Its both advantageous and disadvantageous but I will regret it if we were stopped here.

“Gijijijijijijijijijijijijijii!!”

Sure enough, the entrance is still blocked because of the huge centipedes foolishness. Though it was already useless, it started trying to retreat at a tremendous speed. It looked like he gave up after it thought that it was stuck, but it got riled up after seeing the large horde of red ants.

This is good I guess. I may be able to escape the moment the huge centipede got out. I'm saved, I'll actually survive. I was seriously prepared for death.

...Although that's a weird way to retreat. To me it looks like it's rowing its legs like an oar, it probably doesn't retreat all that often.

Besides, it actually looks quite sad... Well anyway, for now there will be a temporary ceasefire.

I roll up my body with [Roll] and chase after the huge centipede whose backing up at a tremendous speed. Its of course slower than it usually is, but it's still backing up at an incredible rate.

Did I mistake its butt for its head before?

No that doesn't seem right.

Just the fact that it has eaten many other humans before, I would hate it so much more if it was able to shoot a beam from its ass.

"Gijijijijijijijijijijijii!"

The huge centipede completely escapes from the hole. I get out and move to the right running away. I felt relieved for a moment before I saw a terrible sight.

Nearly thirty red ants are clinging to the huge centipedes tail. Apparently the red ants who were roaming outside gathered and tried to pull out the huge centipede by its tail to unplug their hole to the nest.

I run away straight at full speed. When I looked back the red ants who were chasing after me also started battling the huge centipede.

"Gijijijijijijijijijijijii!"

The huge centipede tries to rampage but the red ants hold its tail down. The red ants divided to the left and right to escape from the centipedes bite and start beating it down. Meanwhile the others are concentrating on cutting off its legs.

Whoa, red ants are scary.

The huge centipede is bothered by its tail but it curls up and doesn't try to peel off the red ants. Its decrease in speed is probably due to the large amount of red ants on its tail weighing it down.

The huge centipede started gathering red light in its mouth to get ready for [Heat Ray], but the red light made a small explosion in its mouth and it disappeared. I guess it

used up all of its MP. You can't use something as over the top as [Heat Ray] without the appropriate amount of MP.

Dear ruler of the desert, are you having a hard time with ants you could usually step on?

“Gijijijijijijijijijijijijijijijijijiiii!!”

The huge centipede loudly screeches. My resentment towards it has calmed, as it kind of seems sad.

I wanted to watch how the fight turned out, but it would be bad if they targeted me next. So I raised the speed of [Roll] and never looked back.

See you later huge centipede.

I know I vowed to one day take you down, but you don't really have to survive until then.

I won't let you die until I kill you myself, I had no such feelings. I may have a grudge but we don't have that kind of relationship.

Rather, it would be good if you met your end here.

I will forever remember your death as a stupid monster who got its head stuck in an ant hole.

Chapter 145

Tale of a Certain Brave Man 2 (side story)

“...For a beast with wild intuition, its reaction was rather slow when facing me.”

I lightly swipe my sword to shake off the blood and return it to its sheath. I let out sigh as I sit down on a nearby rock.

I focus my eyes on the panther, the monster I just killed. It surely had the skill [Wild Intuition].

I wanted to test out the curse sword I got the other day, the sword known as the blood sucking princess... but a lower ranked monster wasn't strong enough for it. It was useless thinking that it would last a little longer, and it's boring watching plain beasts suffering.

Why, why should someone like me have to wait so long in this desert? No, I am doing it voluntarily.

The rumors about their being an evil plague dragon are probably fake. Its at most a C rank dark dragon, or possibly a large lizard. That pathetic former knight leader Adofu, I need to find a reason to take him out.

Even when I went to hear about the evil plague dragon from the priest, I was dismissed for letting out a prisoner based off a foolish merchants delusions. He used to be more flexible in the past, but now he's bothersome. Who do you think is to thank for being able to have such a delicious broth.

I then asked if they could let me organize a platoon to investigate with Adofu as the leader, if there really was a plague dragon then Adofu will be temporarily released so that he could lead a subjugation team. But by the way things are going, the survey team won't find anything and come back with their heads held high. Since the priest was going to have to take on the matter himself he accepted my request.

That's why, I need this too work out.

If the evil plague dragon didn't exist I only need to fake one, but if it does exist then even better.

It's easy enough. Even the fool of a priest wouldn't expect it.

Looking in the distance I could see people starting to emerge. It seems the survey team finally came back.

Five, six, seven?

Even though there should have been eight one of them is missing. In any case, it looks like they didn't come up with anything, it's to be expected from a team of newbies. Did the other guy get chased by the sand centipede?

.....What, I don't see that particular harness, where's the captain? Hagen's the one missing?

Even though they should have been cheerfully returning, all of them are half crying with their horses running at full power. It doesn't look like anything is following from behind them, so why are they rushing here in such a state?

They seem to have encountered something dreadful.

If they really did encounter a dragon, then seven out of eight people returning should not have happened in the first place. A few of them are injured but it doesn't look like anything serious. This confirms the false information of there being a dragon, but they may have not want to make their way over for nothing and attacked some monsters along the way.

"Hey, what happened? Where's Hagen?" (Irushia)

I stand and call out. The survey team head my way and stop and the one in charge gets down their horse and stares me in the eyes.

"I, Irushia sir! What are you doing here?" (Soldier A)

"I was worried over the whole situation. But even if I thought the merchant may have made a mistake, I thought it would be alright if I send out Hagen just in case there really was an evil plague dragon by chance." (Irushia)

“Th, the chance was real! This is serious! There really was an evil plague dragon!”
(Soldier A)

Two of them in the back shouted the same thing while crying.

“Hagen, was eaten!”

“E-even I was sent off my horse, but I managed to find a gap and escape for my life...”
(Soldier A)

Unbelievable.

There really was an evil plague dragon?

It wouldn't come over to Harenae. I've only seen an illustration of it in a book.

Even Hagen got eaten.....

He was an idiot but also confident, someone who would go charging in recklessly. I had often thought that with such characteristics then he could surely battle against an evil plague dragon.

“hmmm..... the damage isn't that great” (Irushia)

For something such as an evil plague dragon this kind of damage doesn't suit it. Perhaps it is still at a low level. Its doubtful the church will judge it as a plague dragon with just this. This doesn't seem sufficient enough of a reason to let out Adofu. It's necessary to heighten the sense of crisis in the upper management of Harenae.

“N-no, Although it really was an evil plague dragon! To it even Hagen was nothing more than twisting a baby's hand...” (Soldier A)

Twisting the hands of that bald man was possible even for monsters below the class of an evil plague dragon. Really, those that can't see status are hilarious and can't be helped. As for myself, I'm able to asses the true strength of those around me. Everything about them is known to me, every part of their status and how they may behave.

Tsktsk, they can't be helped. Even looking at these men, they are nothing but pebbles compared to me.

“No, when I said that the damage was too small, I didn’t mean it that way.” (Irushia)

“Huh?” (Soldier A)

“Seven people were killed and one managed to escape with near death... I saw something strange and came to see the situation, where it was then reported to me the necessary information with their dying breath. If only the bald man was eaten and the rest just ended up with a sprain or a small wound it will be laughable.” (Irushia)

“So-sorry, I don’t really understand the meaning of what you just said...” (Soldier A)

Before the soldier could finish, I pulled out my sword and slashed his chest. The soldier doesn’t say anything and falls to the ground as is.

Aww, I wanted to test the effects of the curse sword so I slashed lightly. His weakness is peerless. If a monster was ever able to break through the amulets and walls then Harenae will end.

What was a soldier useful for?

The curse sword sucks up the blood of the slain soldier while slightly pulsating. It seems that my HP can recover, but since I don’t have any wounds it was pointless. I wanted to test the effects a little more.

[76 experience points obtained]

Haha, isn’t it better to go hunting for ants. Killing a person doesn’t give much experience, so there isn’t much enjoyment.

“I-Irushia sir?” (Soldier B)

“What, what happened?” “Why, in the world did you...” (Soldier B)

The remaining five people won’t really be missed if I just tossed them out. I only need to return the Pegasus.

“That’s why, I was saying that the damage was insufficient, really, you’re really slow aren’t you?” (Irushia)

I laughed as I slashed the man with my sword, and the remain five people started

screaming and running from the city with their faces dyed blue.

“MA-Monster!”

Some of them cried out the same as well. That’s cruel. Even though you guys are the ones who usually kill monsters. Ah, well as it is often said, sometimes it’s not all that bad.

When they are finished, I will explain it to the priest and release Adofu. I couldn’t defend myself before and was scolded shamefully. After killing his fiancée and awaiting to be executed on false charges Adofu is on death row. I don’t have the time to be waiting.

“...[Quick]” (Irushia)

After casting magic , I lightly wield the cursed sword. I guess I should start soon.

Chapter 146

Tale of a Certain Brave Man 3 (side story)

“...It was reported that the temporary survey team has been annihilated. Since returning here was top priority the corpses were left as is, and probably claimed by wild beasts. After I’ve settled this matter I will go back and collect the remains if any and apologize to the bereaved family.” (Irushia)

Although it is just a pose, lowering your head is not very pleasant. Even more so if the one you’re bowing to is a shitty priest. It is me who is providing you with delicious broth and you who is supposed to be inferior.

The saying, where might is master, and justice servant is absurd. I must refrain from displeasing him. But when the day comes where you are no longer of value, I will be the one to kill you.

“Since I had just returned to my hometown after such a long time, you said it was necessary to prioritize resting from mental or physical strain, but...?” (Irushia)

“Even if the people claim it is just a hoax, it will not be easy to simply wipe away their uneasiness. Since this is an extraordinary crises I was not able to sleep very much. But thanks to that I was able to grasp a full understanding of the situation, is that an inconvenience for you?” (Irushia)

“...By no means, but are you sure?” (Priest)

“It’s alright, it’s what I do.” (Irushia)

Yesterday I thoroughly erased any trace of those soldiers which was exceedingly troublesome, especially having to make sure none of the surrounding districts noticed. Now I just have to forge some details to have the priest cooperate without making it seem too suspicious... Well this situation is nothing to make light of so it’s not going to take much anyway.

As long as he does not check into it.

“Well I will lead the expedition to suppress the evil plague dragon tomorrow, and I will also be temporarily releasing the former knight captain Adofu as promised, to accompany me in the suppression.” (Irushia)

“There’s no need to do that, why bother having him accompany you, as long as you have the army you can handle it yourself.” (Priest)

“Since it was he who took care of me in the past I would at least like to return the favor. If Adofu is able to be recognized for his achievements in this case, then I would like to request a re-investigation on the matter of Adofu having killed his fiance.” (Irushia)

“Do not bring your private affairs into this!” (Priest)

“There is no other suitable person. Eight men of the survey team have already been killed by that evil plague dragon. If this continues then several more will also fall victim. Since I can hear the [Voice of God] I know that Adofu is someone I can take with me.” (Irushia)

This is a lie.

For someone on the level of Adofu anyone else is just as useful and more so in numbers. As long as I say that I can see their status and with [Voice of God] then I can bluff as much as I want.

“Gu guu...” (Priest)

“Besides, I am quite sturdy, but I will need someone who is prepared for death, why waste your other captains when you can send out someone who is already on death row like Adofu?” (Irushia)

“But, But that’s...” (Priest)

“If you keep denying it so vehemently for no reason, it will make others suspicious. It will be against the beliefs of the church if Adofu is treated so differently, and this will lead to an accumulation of questions of why his death is being pushed..... This is the kind of rumor that will spread through the people I believe.” (Irushia)

“...Irushia, are you trying to threaten me?” (Priest)

“No, not at all, the whole ordeal is just absurd to me. It’s only because it’s important

for me, but I will leave it at that, I just don't want it to turn out bad for the priests, so it's quite fortunate that I will get the chance to look into it myself." (Irushia)

"In the first place, how do you expect to handle something on the level of an evil plague dragon by yourself!" (Priest)

"I am still inexperienced and need much training for my body to grow with exercise. So I thought that this will be a good match... don't you think? Also that dragon is clever and it may encounter the amulet in the desert in due time and may destroy it." (Irushia)

"To do this for such a reason..." (Priest)

The priest says in a low voice, grinding his teeth in vexation.

"So what do you say, my priest?" (Irushia)

"...I will allow it, as an exception, take Adofu along with you. Since there is already a mark to prevent his escape, please deal with him should he try to escape." (Priest)

"It's almost as if you want me to kill him." (Irushia)

"....." (Priest)

"It's only a joke, my priest. Thank you for your permission." (Irushia)

I thanked him and left the room.

I've done it, now with this I will be able to take Adofu along with me tomorrow. From there things will move as planned. Really, to go so far just to kick around and humiliate Adofu's corpse. I guess I need to enjoy the feeling as long as possible. I'm looking forward to what kind of face he will make.

Killing that evil plague dragon won't be too difficult either. At most it still doesn't measure up to that sand centipede. Since that survey team's survival rate was so high then it could only be considered somewhere around C rank. There's no need to use the holy sword on it, so should I test out the curse sword to kill it?

Evil plague dragon huh?

It'll be worth good money.

Though a percent of it will go to that idiot priest and the church. Well I will be able to handle my matters with Adofu and gain some money on the side, so I guess it isn't too bad. Considering the future, I may have to let some of the money go to appease the people to get my favor back up. If I use that as my reason then I can just keep everything after threatening the church a little.

Its standard to claim a portion of the dragon. From the top of the head to the tip of the tail, material could be gathered. Since many dragons are rather large it is a good profit. It is said that a small country facing financial troubles will recover with the materials gathered from a large high quality dragon, if they were to subjugate it.

The skin is turned into armor and clothing, and is often used in rituals. If you process the bones and nails you can make magical weapons, as well as craft goods and musical instruments. Even if it's in bad shape, you can simply grind it and use it as high quality fertilizer.

There really isn't any well established methods for cooking dishes due to its rarity, but the meat can also of course be eaten. It's not only used for eating, but also often used for medical treatments and ceremonial offerings.

If it's a powerful dragon with plenty of magical power than even its eyes are collected, as it seems that you can predict the future from them. Although the usefulness for such a thing isn't very practical as its magic dries up soon after.

Since its unusual material, lets make protective gear out of it and add it to the collection. I hope it doesn't leave any strange curses or attaches any ill-effects. But it will still be worthwhile depending on the value. Even if a strange effect is attached you can check it right away and if there is anything disadvantageous I could just leave it with someone else so as not to get affected by it.

Then I could just joyfully watch from afar how that person fairs.



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